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ASEAN To Elect New Secretary General

HK2007071692 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 20 Jul 92 p 3

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] Asean foreign ministers will select a new secretary-general this week, and Philippine nominee Vicente Valdepenas Jr. stands a good chance of being chosen.

Sources at the foreign office said after the Asean senior officials meeting yesterday that Valdepenas had the edge over his rival, D.G. Ajit Singh of Malaysia, based on merit.

The choice will formally be made in Manila by foreign ministers during the 25th annual Asean ministerial meeting beginning July 21, and subsequently submitted to Asean heads of state for ratification.

The post of secretary-general has become very significant because it has been strengthened, raised to the level of a ministry and provided with greater powers reportedly to keep up with changes in the role of Asean.

Valdepenas, who has a Ph.D. from Cornell University, was former head of the Philippines National Economic and Development Authority and heads the Southeast Asian Central Bank Authority.

President Ramos has endorsed the nomination of Valdepenas.

The strengthening of the post of secretary-general, approved at the summit of Asean heads of state in January, is one of the changes in the grouping's secretariat.

The secretary-general, only the head of the Asean secretariat, will now be responsible for initiating, advising, coordinating and implementing Asean activities.

ASEAN To Urge Restraint on Spratlys Claimants

BK2007020392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Jul 92 p A1

[Text] ASEAN will take a closer look at the Spratly Islands dispute and call on claimants to refrain from using force and exercise self-restraint in order to minimize conflict and maximize cooperation, according to senior officials from ASEAN countries.

ASEAN, whose foreign ministers hold an annual meeting here this week, will urge the claimants to apply the principles enshrined in the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation which should be used as a basis for establishing a code of international behaviour over the disputed area in the South China Sea. Claimants should also solve the problem peacefully and collaborate in developing maritime resources, according to Thai officials and other sources at the meeting.

They said ASEAN would not be able to obtain any consensus on an approach to try to settle the territorial claims on the South China Sea islands at the July 21-26 ministerial meeting.

"ASEAN would generally call for all claimants to solve the dispute peacefully without resorting to force and exercising self-restraint," said Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Witthaya Wetchachiwa.

Witthaya said ASEAN would like to see claimants observe the treaty to ensure there is no armed conflict.

A delegate from Singapore said ASEAN would urge all parties involved in the Spratly dispute to minimize conflict and maximize cooperation. The senior officials yesterday ended a three-day meeting held to prepare for the two-day meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers.

Witthaya said ASEAN is interested in the Spratlys issue because it has a direct effect on regional peace and security.

Apart from the Spratlys issue, ASEAN foreign ministers will discuss the post-Cold War situation within the region, the peace process in Cambodia and intra-ASEAN economic cooperation.

The oil-rich Spratlys, a group of 100 islets and atolls, are claimed in whole or part by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei. Except for Taiwan, all claimant states will be represented in Manila this week as part of the ASEAN meeting. Vietnam is acceding to the group's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation while China is a guest of ASEAN.

A call by Philippines Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus for an international conference on the disputed Spratlys was described by ASEAN senior officials as "premature" at this juncture, according to the same conference source. At a press conference yesterday, Manglapus called for a loose arrangement among the six claimants to discuss their differences. He said there is a desire among ASEAN for an international solution. ASEAN, he said, is looking for a modus vivendi which can serve as a mechanism to avoid future clashes.

However, the conference sources said senior officials could not agree on Manglapus's proposal because some thought an international conference on Spratlys would complicate an already complex issue. "China for one would not attend such a conference," the same Thai officials said.

China, which caused a political uproar by signing an agreement in May with a Denver-based oil company for oil exploration in the Spratlys, has said it would like to see peaceful negotiations on a bilateral basis rather than in the form of a multi-national conference.

Foreign Ministers To Consult on Security

HK1907024692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0245 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Manila, July 19 (AFP)—The formerly taboo subject of security will be discussed further in-depth at annual talks here this week by foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), diplomats said Sunday.

They said that a host of topics with security implications for Southeast Asia, among them developments in Cambodia, rival claims to the Spratlys Islands, increasingly seen as a possible flashpoint, and reduced superpower rivalry would figure in the freewheeling discussions from July 21-26.

"There is no fixed agenda for the security matters within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its trading partners at the Post Ministerial Conference (PMC)," a senior ASEAN diplomat said.

The PMC is an annual forum for political and economic talks between the ASEAN ministers and their counterparts from the groups major trading partners.

ASEAN diplomats say that the dialogue on security endorsed in January at a summit of the group's six members, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, would help build confidence as the United States moves out of its Subic Bay base in the Philippines.

The dwindling U.S. presence and the demise of the Soviet Union has led to concern that regional powers, among them China, India and Japan, might attempt to fill the vacuum, analyst said.

Besides ASEAN's regular dialogue partners, the United States, Canada, the European Community, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand, the series of meetings here will also be attended by Russia, China, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam and Laos.

Russia and China have been invited to the talks as ASEAN guests, unlike at last year's foreign ministers meeting in Kuala Lumpur, where the former Soviet Union and China were present as personal guests of the Malaysian government.

Vietnam and Laos will formally sign the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation here, a move that regional diplomats say will pave the way for the two countries eventual membership in the 25-year-old association that once shunned the Indochina states.

Regional diplomats said that there is however no fixed time-table for Vietnam and Laos to become full members of ASEAN. "I think both sides feel that there must be higher degree of compatibility in both economic and political systems for that to happen," an ASEAN diplomat said.

Romualdo Ong, head for Asia-Pacific affairs at the Philippine Foreign Ministry, said that the expanding discussions on security were not due to any imminent threat to security in the Asia-Pacific region.

"There is no general threat to the peace of Southeast Asia and Asia-Pacific, although there are some problem areas," he said.

Ong listed these as tensions over the Spratlys and Paracel Islands, claimed in whole or part by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei, an increase in the incidence of piracy in regional waters and the continuing scourge of drug abuse and trafficking.

"None of these however raise the spectre of war," he said.

Philippine President Fidel Ramos said Thursday he favoured a UN-sponsored international conference to settle the Spratlys dispute, a line that his Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus is expected to push at the ASEAN and PMC talks.

Ramos said that he favours joint economic exploitation of the Spratlys, a scattered group of islands believed to sit atop vast oil and gas reserves.

ASEAN diplomats said the foreign ministers were expected to debate a joint reponse to recent developments in Cambodia, where the Marxist Khmer Rouge is stalling full implementation of a UN-brokered plan by refusing to disarm its guerrillas.

The diplomats said that an outright condemnation of the Khmer Rouge conduct should not be ruled out, although some member countries feel that a softer approach might prove more productive in persuading the faction to fall in line.

The ASEAN foreign ministers are also expected to take stock of developments in Burma in the wake of recent reports that Rangoon's military regime is beginning to ease up on dissidents.

ASEAN last year rejected attempts by the United States and the European Community to take a harder line against Burma, saying instead that it preferred "constructive dialogue" to wean Burma back into the international community.

Japan

PRC To Discuss Patent System on Materials

OW1707143392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1319 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 17 KYODO—Japan and China will open negotiations July 27 on China's plans to regulate domestic manufacture of chemicals, drugs, and other materials patented in the United States, Japanese officials said Friday.

They said the negotiations on the system will be held somewhere in China.

Japan contends that the system, to be introduced next January, favors the United States and is discriminatory to Japan and other countries, the officials said.

China and the U.S. agreed last January that production and marketing of materials patented in the U.S. after 1986 will not be allowed in China without government approval for seven and a half years starting in 1993.

In preliminary negotiations held with China in June, Japan contended that there were no reasonable grounds for the special treatment to be given to the U.S., the officials said.

China said it would consider revising the system if Japan promised increased technology transfers to China and supported China's bid to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Mainland Chinese Found Guilty of Illegal Entry

OW1707141292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1317 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 17 KYODO—Six Chinese were convicted Friday of illegal entry into Japan and given suspended eight-month prison sentences.

The Tokyo District Court suspended for three years the sentences of the six, who are to be taken to the Immigration Bureau and deported.

The Chinese, including a fisherman from Fujian Province, left China after paying a huge amount to brokers and landed on Hachijo Island, about 300 kilometers south of Tokyo, around March 31 without proper entry papers, the court ruled.

"The illegal entry for a purpose of making money should be severely censured but they have repented their wrongdoing under longtime detention," said Judge Norio Nishimura.

Also Friday, prosecutors indicted 34 Chinese on charges of illegal entry.

Prosecutors said the 34 left a Fujian Port aboard a fishing boat around June 30 and illegally landed on the Izu Peninsula, about 150 kilometers southwest of Tokyo, on July 9.

Police: Two Chinese Arrested for Illegal Entry

OW2007115492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Shizuoka, July 20 KYODO—Police said Monday they have arrested two Chinese men on suspicion of illegally entering Japan from Irozaki, Izu peninsula, Shizuoka Prefecture.

The police said suspects Weng Peihua, 24, and Weng Deqing, 28, are among about 50 Chinese who illegally entered Japan earlier this month from Irozaki, located about 150 kilometers southwest of Tokyo. Police and immigration authorities found the pair last Wednesday when searching a construction company's lodging for employees in Tokyo. The two have admitted to entering Japan illegally from Irozaki, the police said.

Thirty-four Chinese of the same group have been indicted for coming illegally to Japan, and four youths have already been sent back to China. Police said they will continue searching for the nearly 10 other Chinese still believed to be in Japan and will also investigate whether brokers were involved in the case.

The Maritime Safety Agency in Kagoshima Prefecture has arrested nine crewmen of a Taiwanese ship which carried the Chinese to Japan.

Kurils Resolution Would End 'Post-War Era'

OW2007084192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday a solution to a long-standing territorial dispute with Russia would mark the end of Japan's post-war era.

"Several decades have already passed. I believe the time has arrived when both countries should arrive at an agreement" to resolve a dispute over four Russian-held islands, Miyazawa told a meeting of the Japan Executive Managers' Association. "If this is concluded, then we will be able to say the post-war era is over," Miyazawa told some 500 executives attending an annual meeting.

In the past, leading ruling-party politicians have also cited normalized relations with North Korea as a requirement for sealing Japan's post-war diplomatic history. Japan is refusing to sign a peace treaty or extend substantial financial assistance to Russia until the two neighbors resolve a dispute over four islands off of Japan's northernmost island Hokkaido. The islands, which are Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets, were taken over by Soviet troops at the end of World War II.

The premier suggested that since Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe appears to be in good health, he may meet with his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev twice before President Boris Yeltsin's visits in mid-September to discuss the territorial dispute. Watanabe returned to work a week ago after spending 43 days in the hospital following gallstone surgery.

"Both countries know that the 1855 Russo-Japanese Treaty of Amity was peacefully concluded recognizing Japan's sovereignty over the four islands," Miyazawa said. He added that Japan is prepared to deal flexibly with the issue if Russia recognizes Tokyo's sovereignty over the islands.

Speaking at length on the state of the Russian economy, Miyazawa remarked that the success of reforms aimed at introducing a market economy is unpredictable. He said that with limited investment and technical assistance, however, Japan could easily help develop energy resources in areas of Russia near Japan.

On the domestic economy, Miyazawa told executives that the central government will provide incentives for local governments to implement large public works programs at an early stage in order to spur the economy. The central government will facilitate the issuance of local government bonds, Miyazawa said. Miyazawa cited garbage incinerator plants and enironmental projects as areas to be promoted.

Kanemaru Calls Russia 'Liar,' Opposes Full Aid

OW1807143392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1422 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 18 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), expressed opposition Saturday to Japan's full-scale economic assistance to Russia, saying that the Russian Government has not yet clarified its stance on the Japanese demand for the return of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

In a lecture in Naha, Okinawa, Kanemaru said Japan would provide financial assistance to Russia to some extent to cooperate with other countries helping the republics of the former Soviet Union. Kanemaru, an influential senior leader within the ruling party, said, however, that Japan would not give full-scale aid to Russia, and called the Russian Government a "liar."

Japan has made the return of the four islands off Hokkaido to Japanese sovereignty a condition for major economic aid to Russia. Tokyo is hoping that Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan in September will break open the stalled negotiations on the territorial dispute over the islands, which the Soviet Red Army seized at the end of World War II.

Tokyo, Moscow on Lifting Travel Ban on Diplomats

OW2007115792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1147 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Japan and Russia are holding informal discussions to lift travel restrictions on their diplomats stationed in each other's capital, Foreign Ministry sources said Monday. Intended as a measure to increase mutual trust, an unrestricted travel agreement would mark a drastic departure from current rules limiting diplomats of the countries to travel only within a 40 kilometer radius of their respective capitals—Tokyo and Moscow. The diplomats must obtain special permission when traveling outside the 40 kilometer radius.

The discussions appear to signal a warming of relations between Japan and Russia, while the two countries hope to resolve a territorial dispute involving four Russian-held islands off the coast of the northernmost Japanese main island, Hokkaido. Japan is hoping to reach a formal agreement concerning travel restrictions for diplomats during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit planned for September, the sources said.

According to the sources, Japan also hopes that if travel restrictions for diplomats are abolished, eventually such restrictions on citizens of both countries may also be lifted, thereby increasing exchange between the two countries. Because conservative factions in Russia's Government are wary of sudden reform, however, the outlook for changing the restrictions is uncertain, the sources said.

The defunct Soviet Union began imposing strict travel regulations on foreign diplomats, excluding ambassadors, in 1941, despite international common law that mandated freedom for all diplomats. Shortly thereafter, the United States and other Western countries began suppressing the travel rights of Eastern diplomats. In 1957 Japan also began restricting the movements of Soviet diplomats based in the embassy in Tokyo and the consulate in Osaka.

"On the Japanese side, the provisions were always there as long as the Russians recognized the travel freedom of Japanese diplomats," said the sources. "What happens now is up to the Russians," they said.

Sale of Nuclear Reactor to Thailand Considered

OW1807093992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0915 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 18 KYODO—The Japan Atomic Industrial Forum will send a mission to Thailand late this month to lay the groundwork for exporting a nuclear reactor for research to that country, forum sources said Saturday. If the deal is completed, it will be the first time Japan exports a nuclear reactor.

The mission, led by Narihiro An, honorary professor at the University of Tokyo, leaves Japan on July 27, the sources said.

The team will take with it a design for a miniature version of the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute's JRR-3 nuclear reactor, which has an energy output of 20,000 watts, they said. The forum drafted the design at the request of Thailand.

Thailand asked Japan two years ago to cooperate in setting up a nuclear reactor for research at a facility in the suburbs of Bangkok. It currently has a small nuclear reactor for research near the Bangkok International Airport, where it is producing radioisotopes.

Bangkok hopes to establish a new small reactor with an energy output of about 5,000 watts to use to produce radioisotopes and for analysis, the sources said.

The mission leader an said Japan has not yet decided whether to export the reactor to Thailand, because Bangkok has also contacted Europe and the United States about the project.

He said the mission members will view the planned site of the reactor and talk with Thai officials about concluding an atomic energy treaty, which will be necessary if Japan exports the reactor. Hitachi Ltd. and NKK Corp., which built the JRR-3 reactor, will send delegates with the mission, the sources said.

Burmese Dissidents Rally at Embassy in Tokyo

OW1907144292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1322 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 19 KYODO—Japanese civil groups and Myanmar [Burma] dissidents Sunday called for the release of Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and for the transfer of power to the legally elected party, and said the Rangoon government's move to call a national convention is a sham.

At a rally in front of the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, organized by the National Network for Burmese Concerns, several Japanese human rights groups, the Burmese Association in Japan (BAIJ), and Amnesty International, some 80 demonstrators chanted slogans denouncing the national convention to write a new constitution.

The military government annulled Myanmar's constitution when it staged a coup in 1988. The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) refuses to hand over power to the National League for Democracy (NLD), which won the 1990 elections.

The Burmese Association in Japan, in a letter sent through the Myanmar Embassy in Japan to Lieutenant-General Than Shwe, head of SLORC, demanded that the military immediately and unconditionally release Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin U, founders of the NLD and hand them the reins of government. The letter also demanded the release of all prisoners of conscience.

"This the junta must do," said Tun Aye, the most prominent Myanmar dissident leader in Japan, "to convince the world that SLORC honors their promise to hand over power to the winners in the 1990 elections."

Sunday was the third anniversary of the day Aung San Suu Kyi, fearing a military shoot-out, changed her decision to lead a march to the Martyrs' Mausoleum to commemorate the assassination of her father General Aung San, the founder of modern Myanmar. Aung San Suu Kyi was arrested the next day and on Monday completes her third year under house arrest.

Nippon Steel To Help Iran's Steel Corporation

OW2007094592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0743 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Nippon Steel Corp. said Monday it has signed an agreement to provide management advice to an Iranian state-run steelmaker to help it streamline its operations.

Under the deal, covering 18 months and valued at 200 million yen, Nippon Steel will dispatch experts to the National Iranian Steel Corp. (Nisco) and accept trainees from the Iranian firm, company officials said. The agreement will support efforts by the Iranian steel industry to respond to rapidly growing domestic demand through technological innovation and increased capacity, the officials said.

Nippon Steel has agreed on technological transfer to Esfahan Steel Corp., affiliated with Nisco, a holding firm encompassing more than 10 steel and mining companies.

Crown Prince Naruhito Leaves for Spain 18 Jul

OW1807053392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., July 18 KYODO—Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito left Narita International Airport for Spain on Saturday afternoon to start a three-nation tour which will also take him to Venezuela and Mexico.

In Spain, the crown prince will attend opening ceremonies of the Barcelona [words indistinct] Imperial family.

On the third leg of his 18-day tour, the 32-year-old crown prince will make his second visit to Mexico since 1982.

He is scheduled to return to Japan on August 4.

Tokyo Decides Daily Allowances for Peacekeepers

OW1807091692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0906 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 18 KYODO—Japanese peacekeepers in Cambodia will receive a daily allowance of up to 20,000 yen, nearly twice the amount given to personnel manning Japanese minesweepers deployed in the Persian Gulf last year, government sources said Saturday.

The daily allowances of the Japanese peacekeepers will be about 20,000 yen, 17,000, or 14,000 yen, depending on the tasks and danger involved, the sources said. The sources said the government has informally decided on the matter after the Defense Agency insisted on a high level of daily allowance for Japanese military personnel and civilians who will join the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia this fall.

If a Japanese peacekeeper is engaged in road and bridge repair work in potential mined areas for six months, his allowance will come to over 2.5 million yen, the sources said. By contrast, Japanese minesweeping personnel received a daily allowance of 10,600 yen. Japanese Self-Defense Forces support personnel on the minesweeping mission received 3,700 yen each.

The Japanese Diet last month approved U.N. peacekeeping cooperation legislation permitting Self-Defense Forces to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Miyazawa Not To Visit Shrine Honoring War Dead

OW1807092792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0912 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Fukushima, July 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday that he will not visit Yasukuni Shrine to pay homage to the war dead on August 15, the 47th anniversary of Japan's surrender to the Allied Forces.

In August 1985, former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone became the first postwar premier to visit the shrine, where Japanese war dead, including many convicted war criminals, are enshrined. But Nakasone's visit to the shrine drew bitter criticism both at home and from abroad.

Since 1986, no prime minister has worshiped at the shrine, although many cabinet members have visited there on August 15.

Gives No 'Clear Reason'

OW1807133592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Excerpt] Fukushima, July 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday that he has no plans to visit the Yasukuni Shrine to pay homage to the war dead on August 15, the 47th anniversay of Japan's surrender to the Allied Forces.

At a news conference in Fukushima, Miyazawa also said he has never paid an official visit to the Yasukuni Shrine in downtown Tokyo during his long political career. Miyazawa, however, did not give any clear reason for not visiting the shrine, where Japanese war dead, including Class-A war criminals for World War II, are enshrined.

Political analysts speculated Miyazawa decided not to visit the shrine this year out of consideration for the Asian nations that suffered from atrocities committed by Japanese soldiers in World War II and that are now anxious about the Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) participation in United Nations peacekeeping activities in Cambodia. Under the U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Law enacted last month, Japan is speeding up preparations to send SDF personnel to the war-devastated country.

Miyazawa also apparently took into consideration a possible visit by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to China in the fall, the analysts said. [passage omitted]

Election Speeches by Party Leaders Highlighted

OW2007114792

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 1200 GMT on 19 July carries a two-hour special program entitled "1992 Upper House Elections—Party Leaders Appeal." After a brief report on the forthcoming House of Councillors' elections delivered by NHK announcer Yoko Sakurai from in front of the Diet building, the network begins broadcasting a speech by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

At 1202 GMT, video shows Miyazawa, who is also president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), delivering a speech at an LDP gathering in Tomakomai, Hokkaido, on 16 July. In it, Miyazawa reflects on his attendance at the Munich summit and says: "I felt keenly that Japan's position has changed in the international community and participants at the Munich summit pinned high hopes on Japan. I returned home with this feeling.

"As you are aware, the industrialized nations are now suffering deep economic stagnation. In all the industrialized nations except for Japan, the unemployment rate now runs at 7 or 8 percent. This rate of almost 10 percent unemployment is a great issue for the rest of the industrialized nations. Fortunately, Japan has no serious unemployment problem. The industrialized nations, except for Japan, now suffer from an international balance of payments deficit with no immediate, concrete measures to address it."

Miyazawa says other industrialized nations "hope Japan will do something for their economies." He adds: "In other words, they hope that Japan will expand its domestic demand. We have to work hard to stimulate our economy. At the latest summit talks, all summit participants saw Japan as a powerhouse to stimulate the global economy."

From here, Miyazawa turns his attention to Russia's relations with the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, and, more specifically, to Russo-Japanese relations: "There is one thing I particularly want to mention. Late last year the Soviet Union collapsed and the president of Russia, although he was not a summit participant, held a three-hour meeting with the leaders of the G-7 nations, including me, after the summit ended. This is the first time the summit participants have held a meeting with the Russian president."

Noting that the Soviet superpower has disintegrated and that "Western nations are happy with this victory," Miyazawa says the world is "concerned about what a disintegrated Soviet Union will be like and in what direction the country will move in the future." He continues by reviewing Yeltsin's meeting with the G-7 leaders: "Russian President Yeltsin attended the Munich summit for the first time. He met and talked with us for about three hours. During the meeting, he briefed us on the present situation in Russia in a very straight-forward manner. During the meeting, he told us that Russia intends to follow the path toward democracy and a free market, while asking for assistance from the Western industrialized nations. He made these remarks in a straight-forward manner without hiding the truth. He answered our questions."

Miyazawa continues: "In view of the G-7 Political Declaration, the cold war is over and President Yeltsin came to Munich for talks with leaders of the seven industrialized nations. This means the beginning of a post-cold war era. The disintegrated Soviet Union and Russia are no longer foes of the seven industrialized nations."

Miyazawa encourages Russia to follow the path toward democracy and a market economy, saying Russia will "eventually become a friend and partner of the seven industrialized nations." Miyazawa adds: "Although the word partnership was used at the summit, there is still the territorial issue between Japan and Russia, even if such a new partnership is built between Russia and the seven industrialized nations."

Miyazawa goes on to discuss the Northern Territories issue pending between Japan and Russia: "President Yeltsin has said the issue should be resolved on the basis of the principles of law and justice. I hope that the issue will be resolved in this way. If the issue is settled in this way and Russo-Japanese relations are normalized, this will help Russia become a partner of the seven industrialized nations. Because of this, the Political Declaration stated that the territorial issue between Japan and Russia is a matter of common interest to all seven industrialized nations.

"From now on, Japan should negotiate with Russia on the issue. Our long-standing assertion was accepted by the rest of the seven industrialized nations and the assertion has become the consensus of the seven. In other words, the other industrialized nations confirmed that the territorial issue is a matter of mutual interest.

"In this way, Japan has succeeded in building a consensus of the seven industrialized nations on its position on the territorial issue. Japan now has to resolve, one way or another, this territorial issue which has been left unresolved for 40 years.

"With regard to the nonexistence of a peace treaty between Japan and Russia, only Ikeda when they attended the signing ceremony. Just a few days after talks on the peace treaty started, then Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko walked out of the talks, complaining about the northern territories issue."

Miyazawa continues by noting that the problems remaining in Russo-Japanese relations center on the northern territories issue, adding, "Until now, working-level talks between Japan and Russia have made headway little by little." Miyazawa goes on to say, "If this major issue between Japan and Russia is not resolved, I cannot ask the people to cooperate with the government in providing assistance to Russia. In that sense, I intend to precipitate Russo-Japanese talks on the territorial issue.

"In terms of the path Russia will follow in the future, as you are well aware, there are the IMF and the World Bank. Since Russia has gained membership into these international monetary organizations, it will borrow money from those organizations. Russia will have to work out plans to rebuild its economy. Once an agreement is reached between Russia and the international monetary organizations on such plans, Western industrial nations will provide financial assistance to that country and the IMF will lend money. I believe that it will be very difficult for the international monetary organizations and Russia to reach agreement on these plans. The former Soviet Union owed huge debts to other nations, and Mr. Yeltsin has said these debts amount to $70 billion."

Miyazawa then discusses ways in which Japan plans to provide assistance to Russia. He gives examples by saying: "If Japan helps Russia develop oil and natural gas by supplying new pipelines and technological assistance, this will help Russia restore its production of oil and natural gas. This sort of assistance will help Russia earn more foreign currency. Japan intends to start this sort of economic and technological cooperation with Russia at any time, and Japan has made preparations for this."

Miyazawa turns his attention to the subject of the G-7 Munich summit. He says that during the three-day summit, the leaders of the seven major industrialized nations discussed ways in which Japan could help rebuild Cambodia. This leads Miyazawa to the topic of Japan's international role and its participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKO): "As you are aware, Japan will participate in UN PKO activities, and this was recently legislated in the Diet." Declaring "the war in Cambodia is over," Miyazawa discusses problems associated with repatriating Cambodian refugees, which number between 360,000 and 370,000. One problem hindering the repatriation of the refugees, according to Miyazawa, is the poor state of Cambodia's infrastructure. He says, "That country is in a rainy season. There are no roads, and bridges remain unrepaired. The roads

Self-Defense Forces to Cambodia to help that country rebuild itself. With that intention, we got a bill passed in the Diet."

Next, Miyazawa turns his attention to economic matters: "I mentioned the economy just a while ago. During discussions at the Munich summit, there was an indication that Japan is bent on exports, and this has been mentioned frequently. In response, I have said that Japan intends to curb exports and increase imports by expanding domestic demand. I repeated this at the summit, but the rest of the summit participants did not express their understanding. One summit participant told me that Japan needs to shorten working hours."

Miyazawa's speech concludes with his discussing traffic problems and restating his commitment to political reform. After Miyazawa appeals for support for the LDP in the upcoming upper house elections, his recorded speech ends at 1225 GMT.

At 1226 GMT, the video shows Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the main opposition Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ), delivering a speech at an unidentified hall in the city of Nagoya on 17 July. In his speech, Chairman Tanabe discusses the upcoming House of Councillors elections, saying the elections are of "unprecedented and great significance to Japan."

Tanabe continues by discussing the state of the LDP: "Although the LDP looks strong on the surface, its foundation has collapsed and the ruling party is at stake. This is what we must stress. Various problems have arisen. We cannot but think that the problems have stemmed from the long-time rule by the LDP politics. Therefore, we intend to fight together with all of you during the upcoming upper house elections to lay the groundwork for building a new political system in Japan."

Tanabe says the recently concluded Diet session was "abnormal." In discussing the Diet's approval of the PKO Cooperation Law, he says: "During my long life as a politician, I have never seen any Diet session like the recent session in which principles were blockaded, parliamentary democratic procedures were abandoned, and a settlement was forced through the Diet by a group of leading figures. Although the substance of the PKO bill concerns the principles of Japan and the Constitution, the recent Diet session passed the bill in defiance of such things. We cannot but feel deep regret over the passage of the bill."

In his speech, Tanabe emphasizes the importance of Japan's postwar "peace Constitution." Tanabe says: "I believe that during the agonizing postwar years, what gave us hope was the Constitution of Japan. The Constitution adheres to the principles of democracy and basic human rights. These principles have so far made it possible for us to lead a vigorous and rewarding life. These principles have made it possible for Japan to enjoy its current prosperity. Nevertheless, some LDP legislators have said that because of the Constitution, Japan has avoided giving priority to military strength. When the SDF was formed, it was committed to simply defending Japan's territorial waters and airspace and to the exclusive pursuit of defense. At the time of the SDF Law's passage, a plenary session of the House of Councilors unanimously adopted a resolution banning the overseas dispatch of the SDF. Now, the Constitution is at stake. The government and the LDP pushed the PKO Cooperation Bill through the Diet with the aim of sending members of the SDF abroad in the name of Japan's cooperation with the United Nations."

Tanabe details the SDPJ's efforts in maintaining a policy that endorsed only nonmilitary assistance to other nations during the Diet debates on the PKO law, and he asks the electorate to keep this fact in mind. He goes on to say that, until recently, this policy also had been upheld by the LDP, the Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP)—parties which two years ago had agreed that "Japan should make international contributions based on the peace Constitution by forming an organization separate from the SDF." He adds, "As you are aware, the agreement was later perverted and revised. The PKO Cooperation Bill was passed at the recent ordinary session of the Diet in defiance of our objections. Our party has continued to oppose the bill because it has found that the real intention of the bill is to send members of the SDF abroad." Tanabe goes on to restate the SDPJ's intention to freeze "for the time being" the SDF's participation in PKO activities. He then talks about how public opinion supports this policy.

Tanabe continues by discussing problems the PKO Cooperation Law will create in the region: "As you are well aware, China, South Korea, and the DPRK are greatly concerned about the overseas dispatch of the SDF. An aggressor may forget what it did in the past, but the people who suffered will never forget the aggressor's deeds. In that sense, we feel great anger at the LDP and the other parties that railroaded the passage of the PKO Cooperation Bill. I would like to ask for your understanding of our party's actions in the Diet. Regrettably, the PKO bill was legislated in the Diet, and problems will arise from now on. Nevertheless, the political system can be changed by elections, and now it is possible to change Japan's politics. If all of you support our party in the upcoming upper house elections, our party will seek to review the PKO Cooperation Law. Under the current situation in Cambodia, Japan cannot send any members of the SDF to that country. No matter how hard Prime Minister Miyazawa tries to send members of the SDF to Cambodia, we will not permit him to do so under the current conditions."

After stressing the need for political reform, Tanabe goes on to assail Miyazawa's economic policies. Tanabe says: "Under pressure from the United States, Prime Minister Miyazawa, when he served as finance minister, on several occasions lowered the official discount rate to spoil Japan's economy. He resigned as finance minister for his implication in the Recruit financial scandal. In the wake of the collapse of the bubble economy, the prime minister has worked hard to take emergency measures to stimulate the economy by lowering the official discount rate. The prime minister has frequently said that the prospect of the economy is optimistic, but the economy has never gotten better. Stock prices continue to remain at a low level. All of these problems have engendered public distrust in the political system. No matter what measures the government takes to spur the economy, the people's life-style remains unchanged." After appealing for public support for his party in the upcoming elections, Tanabe's recorded speech ends at 1248 GMT.

The video shows a recorded speech delivered by Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida at an unidentified hall in Osaka on 14 July. At the outset of his speech, Ishida calls for a shift from economic-oriented politics to politics centered on improving the Japanese people's standard of living. He also emphasizes the need for Japan to contribute to the international community. Ishida goes on to outline measures to resolve problems concerning housing, education, and welfare. He stresses the need to enact a housing law that implements Komeito's proposals to improve housing conditions, adding, "opposition parties are also responsible for making steady progress in efforts to improve the life-style of the people." He also pledges to work to reduce burdens created by the spiralling cost of education. Turning his attention to economic pump-priming measures, Ishida proposes an income tax reduction of 1 trillion yen (Y) and the implementation of additional public works projects worth Y6 trillion. He pledges an all-out effort to implement these proposals. Referring to the political reform issue, Ishida says: "What is most needed for political reform is to break up the back-scratching alliance between politicians and big business," which he blames on political donations. Concerning the issue of Japanese cooperation in UN PKO activities, he argues that the PKO Cooperation Law is indeed constitutional because it allows activities only in areas where cease-fires are being observed and it bans the use of force. In conclusion, he pledges that Komeito will play a leading role in promoting domestic demand-oriented politics and in changing the LDP-controlled political system.

At 1305 GMT, the video cuts to show Tetsuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Japan Communist Party (JCP), delivering a speech at an unidentified hall in Kyoto on 14 July. In opening his speech, Fuwa says the JCP is "the only party that has promoted peace and democracy in both the pre- and postwar periods." Fuwa says the JCP, as a party that cherishes the spirit of the Constitution, opposes the dispatch of SDP personnel overseas. He also says the JCP has maintained a high degree of political ethics, noting that the JCP is the only one that does not accept political donations from enterprises. He goes on to stress the need to abolish the practice of accepting political donations from businesses to prevent corruption. Fuwa continues by saying the JCP has fought against U.S. military oppression and against expansionism by the former Soviet Union in the postwar era. Concluding his speech, Fuwa says the JCP has pursued politics based on a principle that "sovereignty resides with the people," and he pledges to try to build a society in which the general public leads the nation.

At 1320 GMT, the video shows Yasusmatsu Hoshikawa, a representative of the Rengo-no-Kai, delivering a speech at an unidentified hall in Yamagata on 14 July. Hoshikawa starts his speech by saying: "Japanese politics have to be reformed as soon as possible because they are badly corrupted." Referring to a recent series of scandals and to what he labels "defective" LDP policies, Hoshikawa stresses the need for the Rengo-no-Kai to win more seats in the Diet to implement political reform. Citing the PKO issue, Hoshikawa calls for the establishment of an organization separate from the SDF to carrying out PKO activities. On economic issues, Hoshikawa calls on the government to implement front-loading public works projects to enhance the people's standard of living.

At 1334 GMT, the video shows Keigo Ouchi, the chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), delivering a speech at an unidentified hall in Kobe on 15 July. Ouchi criticizes the LDP for its failure to prevent corruption and its failure to improve people's life-styles. To reflect public opinion in the Diet, Ouchi argues it is necessary to strengthen the power of "clean opposition parties" like the DSP. He discusses what he calls the DSP's achievements in the passage of the PKO Cooperation Law, and he stresses the constitutionality of the law by referring to the four conditions the law establishes for Japan's participation in UN PKO missions. Ouchi says the law is needed because "Japan should extend a helping hand to nations in trouble." On the issue of boosting the economy, Ouchi calls for reducing the income tax and revising other taxes.

At 1348 GMT, the video shows Satsuki Eda, chairman of the United Socialist Democratic Party, delivering a speech on an unidentified street. Eda calls for implementing political reform in cooperation with the general public and for establishing a PKO organization separate from the SDF.

At 1351 GMT, the video shows a recorded series of brief campaign speeches by representatives of small parties, including the Niin Club and New Japan Party.

At 1357 GMT, the program ends with NHK announcer Sakurai's listing of the names of those parties with candidates running in the upper house elections.

Opposition Demand for Immediate Talks Rejected

OW1907073192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0724 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Oita, July 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Sunday that he may ask for meetings with the heads of opposition parties to discuss stepping up measures to revive the sluggish economy and political reforms after the July 26 House of Councillors election.

Opposition leaders, including Social Democratic Party Chairman Makoto Tanabe and Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Keigo Ouchi, have proposed talks with Miyazawa over the controversial United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Law and economic stimulation measures.

At a press conference in Oita in Kyushu, southern Japan, Miyazawa rejected the opposition parties' demand for immediate top-level talks, saying he cannot meet the request now, at the height of the upper house election campaign. Miyazawa last met opposition parties' heads separately in June prior to his departure for the Munich summit meeting.

During the Sunday press meeting, Miyazawa expressed optimism about the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's proposal for reapportioning House of Representatives seats by cutting one seat each in 10 constituencies and increasing one seat each in nine constituencies.

Miyazawa said, "I think opposition parties do not oppose the proposal by some means or other. I hope the next Diet session will approve the proposal." Miyazawa indicated he plans to convene the next extraordinary Diet session in September at the latest. He said he thinks he should not delay the session too long as the legislators have to tackle the economic measures and political reforms.

On his diplomatic schedule, Miyazawa said for the next several weeks he has to concentrate on a planned visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin in mid-September. He added he does not plan any more foreign travel this year.

Rengo Reported Losing Momentum in Election Race

OW1907014692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Report by Tadashi Matsumoto]

[Text] Tokyo, July 19 KYODO—Three years ago they were 11 political newcomers arriving on the Japanese political scene in "the eye of a typhoon" as they made their political debuts largely at the expense of the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

In the current election, however, many voters are asking what happened to the momentum shown in 1989 as the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo) sent those 11 new faces to the House of Councillors.

Political commentators say voters have become disillusioned with the performance of the Rengo legislators, and recent newspaper polls seem to bear this out.

This time, Rengo, through its political affiliate Rengo-No-Kai, is fielding 23 candidates for the July 26 election for the upper chamber.

Unlike the last contest in which 11 of the 12 candidates backed by Rengo were elected, this contest may give little to brag about to Rengo leader Akira Yamagishi.

As president of the eight million-member confederation, Yamagishi admitted that Rengo-no-Kai was slow in getting started for this year's campaign.

"We are catching up with Liberal Democratic Party candidates (in local districts)," Yamagishi told reporters. He predicted his party would "get more than 10 seats in the upcoming election."

Newspaper polls, however, indicate that only four or five Rengo candidates have enough support to be elected.

In the last election, Rengo's performance was the chief reason that the LDP lost its majority in the upper house for the first time since 1955.

The LDP loss came amid voter dissatisfaction with a 3 percent consumption tax as well as stock transaction and sex scandals implicating LDP leaders.

But Michitoshi Takabatake, a Rikkyo University professor specializing in Japanese political affairs, told KYODO News Service that Rengo's luster has faded because the Rengo legislators have not lived up to the electorate's expectations about their activities both inside and outside of the Diet.

"Voters always expect something in politics from a new political party... but they are always disappointed later," Takabatake said.

He pointed out that Rengo has failed over the past three years to bring together the Social Democratic Party (SDP)—the largest opposition party—and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), a smaller opposition group.

The Rengo confederation includes individual unions which support either the SDP or DSP.

SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe led his party as it resorted to "ox walk" vote-slowing tactics to try to stall the enactment of the United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Law which allows the dispatch of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops to take a noncombat part in U.N. missions abroad.

The DSP joined the LDP and Komeito in getting the legislation through the Diet.

Yasumatsu Hoshikawa, leader of Rengo-No-Kai, said, "we want social democratic and other liberal forces to join in the formation of a single party and form a government to replace the LDP."

DSP Leader Keigo Ouchi said he disapproved of the SDP's go-slow voting tactics, however, adding that there will be no merger unless the SDP leadership severs its relations with left-wing members in the party.

Takabatake predicted that following the July 26 election the LDP may reach agreement on specific issues and forge an alliance with the DSP and Komeito to confront the SDP in the Diet.

Agricultural Bank on Aid to Nonbank Institutions

OW1707130692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 17 KYODO—The central bank for Japan's farm cooperatives is considering joining efforts underway to rescue financially troubled nonbank financial institutions, sources close to the bank said Friday.

If Norinchukin Bank takes the lead, other agricultural financial institutions are expected to follow suit, the sources told KYODO News Service.

The move would mark a major policy shift as Norinchukin Bank and other farm financial institutions have rejected providing any aid to troubled nonbank institutions such as Nichiboshin Ltd. despite their huge loans to such institutions.

Norinchukin Bank and the other agricultural financial institutions together have extended more than 5 trillion yen to a number of nonbank lending institutions, including Nichiboshin and Nippon Housing Loan Co.

Their loans to Nippon Housing, for example, account for nearly 40 percent of the mortgage loan firm's 2.3 trillion yen borrowings.

Major banks have already provided financial assistance to troubled nonbanks, including an interest payment deferral on their borrowings from the banks, and have criticized Norinchukin and other agricultural financial institutions for not taking a similar step.

The sources acknowledged pressure from the Bank of Japan and the Finance Ministry as well as banks to join the rescue efforts but they would not elaborate.

Many nonbanks—consumer credit firms and other lenders that are not banks or insurers—have been tottering under the weight of huge nonperforming loans, mostly those for real estate speculation because of the prolonged slump in the property market.

Miyazawa Vows More Support for Local Projects

OW2007105292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday that the government will further support local government public works projects as part of efforts to revitalize the dull economy. Addressing business executives at a gathering sponsored by the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Miyazawa said the central government is ready to issue bonds to help finance local government public works projects, which he said could boost the sluggish economy.

"Some local governments have shown a desire to engage in individual projects," he said. Regarding front-loading of 75 percent of public works spending in fiscal 1992, Miyazawa suggested the government may adopt a big-scale supplementary budget, saying, "(the government) is naturally studying what to do later (to make up for the front-loading)."

North Korea

President Bush's Comment on Nuclear Arms Noted

SK2007073692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 20 Jul 92

["NODONG SINMUN on Bush's Declaration Regarding Halt to Production of Nuclear Fissionable Materials"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Bush's announcement that the United States would no longer produce nuclear substances for arms is noteworthy as a positive step, but it is, in fact, of no great significance since a huge amount of plutonium and enriched uranium has been stockpiled in the United States, says a NODONG SINMUN analyst today.

In a commentary entitled "What Do They Seek?" The analyst quotes the WASHINGTON POST as saying Bush's declaration virtually does not mean a halt to the production of nuclear arms.

The commentary says:

The United States which had announced the discontinuation of the production of uranium for nuclear arms in 1964, and of the production of plutonium in 1988, declared a halt to their production again. Obviously, it has an axe to grind in this.

By announcing a halt to the production of nuclear substances for arms again the United States is trying to put some pressure on other countries.

Now that it has announced a halt to the production of nuclear substances for arms it must, first of all, discontinue the production and testing of nuclear weapons and reduce them and, furthermore, take steps to completely eliminate them.

Not doing so but trying to find fault with other's peaceful nuclear program will be an improper behavior.

The United States should also take steps to divert the nuclear technologies and equipment used for the production of nuclear arms to cooperation for the solution of the power problem in the developing countries.

Only then can it enjoy sympathy from the unbiased public opinion.

U.S.-ROK Focus Lens Exercise Berated

SK1807101692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0023 GMT 16 Jul 92

[NODONG SINMUN 16 July commentary: "Another Name for the Team Spirit Exercise"]

[Text] According to a report, the United States and the South Korean authorities recently agreed to conduct the provocative Focus Lens joint military exercise across South Korea next month.

To increase the joint combat capability of the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet army, ultramodern weapons, including F-117 Stealth fighter-bombers, Patriot missiles, and early warning planes, which the United States had mobilized in the Gulf war, will be mobilized for the war exercise to be conducted for 12 days beginning 19 August.

It is very serious that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are turning the Focus Lens, which so far had been conducted as a joint military exercise, into a real war exercise with the mobilization of ultramodern equipment and combat units. This is a deliberate and premeditated maneuver to reverse the Korean peninsula situation, which is favorably developing as a result of the adoption and validation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration of denuclearization. Once again this shows how recklessly wild the warmongers are running.

While saying that the doubts about the North's nuclear weapons have not been dissipated and that the United States and the South Korean authorities should fill the security vacuum caused by the suspended Team Spirit joint military exercise, they are making clumsy excuses to cover up the aggressive nature of the Focus Lens war exercise. However, this is nonsense.

The International Atomic Energy Agency at last June's Board of Governors meeting once again clearly confirmed that we are using nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and that we are making every sincere effort to denuclearize the Korean peninsula. Voices calling for inspecting nuclear bases in South Korea are ringing out throughout the world. The doubts about nuclear weapons originates from none other than South Korea, officially recognized as the U.S. largest nuclear forward base in the Far East. Nuclear war exercises to invade the North have been constantly conducted there.

The Focus Lens joint military exercise, which the United States and the South Korean authorities are trying to conduct, is a very dangerous game with fire to invade the northern half of the republic. As is known, the U.S. imperialists who have become more arrogant since the Gulf war are raving that it is very possible for a large-scale regional dispute to occur on the Korean peninsula. They have openly revealed their inner intent to cause another war in Korea.

The warmongers' attempt to accelerate the preparations for a northward war is clearly shown by the 120-day war scenario, mapped out by the U.S. imperialists; by the Wartime Host Nation Support Agreement, which is aimed at commandeering everything for operations when the U.S. imperialists mobilize their armed forces in South Korea in an emergency; by the puppet military head's absurd remarks about making a surprise attack on our nuclear facilities; and by constant provocative military exercises against us.

The United States and the South Korean authorities announced that they would discontinue the Team Spirit joint military exercise this year. However, nuclear war exercises to invade the North have been daily conducted in South Korea this year. Furthermore, they are trying to conduct the Focus Lens joint military exercise under the pretext of filling the security vacuum. This shows not only that the Focus Lens joint military exercise is another name for the Team Spirit exercise but also that the Focus Lens joint military exercise precisely means the resumption of the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

The Team Spirit joint military exercise had been conducted for 16 years in South Korea under the pretext of increasing the joint combat capability of the U.S. forces and the puppet army. Ultramodern equipment, which was mobilized in the Gulf war, will be mobilized in the Focus Lens joint military exercise. If there is a difference between Focus Lens and Team Spirit, the Focus Lens joint military exercise is more potent than the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

Even after confirming before the world's people that the South Korean authorities will not fight against us, they are trying to conduct the dangerous game with fire to destroy the fellow countrymen in collaboration with the foreign forces. This is a betrayal of us, the dialogue partner. This can never be tolerated. This actually shows that, even though the South Korean authorities were forced to sign the important agreements including on nonaggression because of domestic and foreign opinion, they do not have the slightest will to achieve national reconciliation, unity, and reunification and also that they only seek confrontation and war.

For the occasion of 15 August, the issue of exchanging home-visiting groups of elderly parents and art troupes between the North and the South was put on the agenda. To successfully resolve the issue, the South Korean authorities should not cloud the atmosphere. Under the circumstances in which gunshots are ringing out and gunpowder is reeking, the work to exchange home-visiting groups cannot be promoted smoothly. This is common sense.

The South Korean newspaper CHUNGANG ILBO reported that the war exercise will unfavorably affect the progress of the North-South dialogue. This was not an accident. The South Korean authorities are planning to conduct the game with fire with the United States by the end of August, which is when the exchange of the home-visiting groups of elderly parents and art troupes has been scheduled. This shows that they are not interested either in dialogue or in basic Red Cross humanitarian work.

The United States and the South Korean authorities must immediately give up the plan for the Focus Lens joint military exercise, which threatens peace on the Korean peninsula and casts a shadow over the prospect of the North-South dialogue. They should stop applying brakes in the implementation of the North-South agreement.

Those who are recklessly following the path of confrontation and war and running counter to the trends of the times and the nation's aspiration will not avoid the strong protest and denunciation from the people at home and abroad.

KCNA Reports Kim Tal-hyon's Arrival in Seoul

SK1907085892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul July 19 (KCNA correspondent)—Kim Tal-hyon, vice-premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the External Economy Commission, and his party crossed the Military Demarcation Line in Panmunjom at 10 this morning to visit Seoul.

They were seen off on the spot by Vice-Minister of External Economic Affairs Kim Chong-u and officials concerned.

Upon their arrival in the area of the South side in Panmunjom the vice-premier and his party were received by a vice-minister of the Economic Planning Board of South Korea.

They arrived in Seoul at 1150 this morning.

Our vice-premier and his party were greeted by Choe Kak-kyu, deputy prime minister and minister of the Economic Planning Board of South Korea at the Hilton Hotel, their place of lodging.

Prior to the departure from Panmunjom Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon was interviewed by reporters.

Noting that the purpose of their visit to the South was to contribute to rejoining the severed ties of the national economy and bringing earlier the reunification of the country, the vice- premier pointed out that the current trip to Seoul made on the principle of reciprocity would make a contribution to promoting the development of the national economy by effecting economic cooperation and exchange between the North and the South.

Joint Political Subcommittee Talks Detailed

SK1807131992 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1210 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] The second members' contact of the Political Subcommittee of the North-South high-level talks took place today at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

Our side's member briefed the reporters after the contact. He said:

In today's contact, the two sides presented their amended draft supplementary agreements and discussed them. Our side's amended draft supplementary agreement is a reunification-oriented one that complies with the spirit of the North-South agreement's provisions on reconciliation and would help the North and South reach agreement at the earliest. However, the South side's amended draft supplementary agreement is a divisionist one based on reliance on outside forces, a draft agreement that is no different from its previous one in terms of composition and details.

Our side said that the sides must adopt a supplementary agreement in compliance with the spirit of the North-South agreement, which the sides agreed on and effectuated. Our side asked the South side to delete the (?general rules) mentioned in a separate clause in the preamble of its draft supplementary agreement.

The (?general rules) mentioned by the South side in its draft supplementary agreement are the enumeration of unnecessary words and concepts and are intended to freeze and justify the country's division. However, the South side did not accept our side's just demand and kept insisting that the (?general rules) be mentioned in the supplementary agreement.

Our side demanded that the supplementary agreement mention that both North and South shall recognize and respect each other's ideas and systems. However, the South side opposes the concept of recognizing and respecting each other's ideas. In this way, the South side expressed its ulterior motive of preventing people from freely choosing ideas and freely expressing their opinions.

Our side demanded that the supplementary agreement mention that the North and South shall remove judicial and systematic devices that violate the conciliatory spirit of the North-South agreement and that run counter to the fatherland's reunification. However, the South side opposed this, as well.

The South side opposes the removal of the judicial and systematic devices. It does so in a bid to leave intact the National Security Law, which considers us, the South's dialogue partner, to be its enemy and a series of other vicious antireunification, fascist laws; to continuously maintain the North-South confrontation; and to block the movement for independence, democracy, and peaceful reunification in South Korea. The South side also insisted that the supplementary agreement mention that the North and South shall honor the jurisdiction of each other's government over each other's territory, thus recognizing two Koreas in reality. In this way, the South side more clearly showed that it opposes North-South reconciliation and reunification.

No agreement was reached in today's contact because of the South side's divisionist position based on reliance on outside force.

In concluding the contact, our side asked the South side to abandon its unjust position and return to the next contact after extensively studying our just and reasonable draft supplementary agreement if it truly wants North-South reconciliation and reunification.

The two sides agreed to hold the third members' contact of the Political Subcommittee on 30 July.

WPK Central Committee Member Pang Hak-se Dies

SK1807235792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Comrade Pang Hak-se, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], deputy of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and president of the Central Court, regrettably died at 2300 [local time] on 18 July 1992, after suffering from a long illness. He was 73 years old.

Comrade Pang Hak-se was born in a foreign land and grew up there. He was embraced in the bosom of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people after liberation. He was brought up to be a competent official. Upholding the leadership of the party and the leader, he devotedly struggled to construct the country's socialism and to expedite the independent reunification of the fatherland.

While working at a responsible position in the public security area as well as in the judicial system for a long period of time, the comrade devoted himself to defending revolutionary achievements from the aggression of enemies at home and abroad. He did this to strengthen the people's regime and to consolidate the legal order of the country. In addition, he has contributed much to defending and safeguarding our party's unity and solidarity.

Until his last living moment, Comrade Pang Hak-se helped firmly establish the party's unitary ideological system and was endlessly loyal to the party and leader.

Even though Comrade Pang Hak-se died, the exploits he has effected for our party and the revolutionary cause will remain forever.

[dated] 18 July 1992,

[signed] The WPK Central Committee, the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee

South Korea

Kim Tal-hyon Arrives in Seoul for 7-Day Visit

SK1907020392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon arrived here Sunday through the truce village of Panmunjom for a seven-day official visit.

Kim crossed the border at 10:00 a.m., leading nine other officials, at the invitation of his South Korean counterpart Choe Kak-kyu.

Kim, one of a few leaders in North Korea who appear to favor openness and reform for economic development, is the highest economic policymaker to visit Seoul.

He is also said to be equipped with sensitivity in understanding capitalism and the free market system. Kim's visit is expected to have a positive effect on inter-Korean relations.

During his stay, Kim will pay a courtesy call on President No Tae-u and deliver message from North Korean President Kim Il-song and tour industrial plants of the Daewoo, Ssangyong and other business groups in Pusan and the neighboring cities and tourism facilities in Kyongju.

He is scheduled to meet with Choe and other government officials and business leaders, providing a possible impetus for closer economic cooperation between South and North Korea.

The North Korean officials who accompany Kim include Chong Won- op, 51, president of Samchonri Co. of the Ministry of Foreign Trade; Yi Song-tae, 54, vice foreign trade minister, trade councilor in China; Yim Tae-tok, 46, chief secretary of the Committee for External Economic Cooperation; Kim Tong-guk, 50, state council responsible guidance member; Kim Ung-yon, 42, secretary to deputy premier; Hwang Po-hyok, 49, deputy bureau director of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

Kim will also be accompanied by two reporters, from the Korean Central News Agency and the Central Television Station, and by a communications technician.

On Sunday, the first day of his visit, he is scheduled to tour such distribution facilities as Namdaemun Market and Lotte Department Store and attend at the dinner hosted by Choe at the Hyatt Hotel.

To Discuss Economic Issues Only

SK1907034692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0334 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon expressed his hope Sunday that his visit will contribute to realize South-North economic cooperation and exchange.

Kim told reporters at the truce village of Panmunjom immediately after his arrival that the North Korean team came here to link national economy which has been cut in two and advance reunification of the Korean peninsula.

He crossed the border at 10:00 a.m. with nine North Korean government officials for a seven-day stay at the invitation of his South Korean counterpart Choe Kak-kyu.

"We will meet with South Korean economic leaders to discuss over economic cooperation and exchange between the two Koreas," he said.

The top North Korean economic policymaker urged to open ways to begin economic cooperation projects for exhibition even before mutual agreement is signed as well as to advance agreement on matters on economic cooperation and exchange.

He also said that he will make efforts to realize Choe's visit to North Korea.

Kim, however, made clear that he has no plan to discuss other problems than economic matters, including nuclear problem.

Itinerary Detailed

SK1807085092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—North Korea's Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon, accompanied by a nine-member suite, will cross Panmunjom at 10 A.M. Sunday [19 July] to begin his weeklong tour of the South to have a "first-hand observation" of the capitalist economy here.

According to an itinerary made availabe Saturday, Kim will meet the press at the truce village before heading for Seoul.

Kim and his party are to arrive at the Hotel Hilton around noon. After a brief rest, they will look around Seoul before attending a dinner to be hosted for them by Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu at the Hotel Hyatt.

On Monday, Kim will meet Choe and Deputy Prime Minister and National Unification Minister Choe Yong-chol to discuss ways to promote economic cooperation between the two sides.

In the evening, he will have opportunities to confer with business leaders at a dinner hosted in his honor by the heads of five leading business organizations.

The northern visitors will spend three nights in Seoul, two in Kyongju and one in Pusan, in the course of which they will observe key industrial facilities in the Seoul-Inchon area, Chongju, Kumi, Ulsan, Pohang, Pusan and Okpo.

The facilities they will visit in Seoul will include the Namdaemun market, Karak-tong farm and fisheries market and the Lotte Department Stores.

The government plans to arrange Kim's courtesy call on President No Tae-u during his visit expected to have a significant impact on the progress of inter-Korean talks.

Discusses Joint Projects With EPB Head

SK2007092492 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 20 Jul 92 p 1

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Board [EPB] Minister Choe Kak-kyu held talks this morning with Kim Tal-hyon, vice premier and chairman of the External Economic Committee of the DPRK Administration Council, at the second government office building in Kwachon to they discuss pending issues on North-South relations, including North-South economic cooperation. This is the second day of Kim's visit to Seoul.

Using North Korean Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon's visit to Seoul and the official talks between the officers in charge of economic policy of North and South Korea as an occasion, pilot projects in the light industry sector, including the construction of North-South joint venture industrial complexes, will be earnestly discussed. Consequently, the establishment of a firm and progressive foundation for economic cooperation between the North and the South is expected.

The talks began at 0950 [0050 GMT] this morning and lasted for 30 minutes. The two officials agreed that it is desirable to realize North-South economic cooperation at the earliest possible date, and they agreed to make joint efforts to see that happen.

Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon officially invited Deputy Prime Minister Choe to visit Pyongyang, and Vice Prime Minister Choe accepted. They agreed that the date of Deputy Prime Minister Choe's visit to Pyongyang will be discussed later through North-South dialogue.

EPB spokesman Maeng Chong-chu announced that the two deputy premiers are to discuss North-South economic cooperation again when Deputy Premier Choe calls on Vice Premier Kim at his lodgings on the morning of 24 July when he and his entourage return to Seoul from their industrial tour of plants in the provincial areas.

The deputy premiers shared the view that cooperation between both sides' authorities is necessary, more than anything else, to push ahead with full-fledged North-South economic cooperation and agreed that the two sides will make efforts to conclude the annexed agreement for the exchange and cooperation between the North and the South, which is to be discussed through the North-South high-level talks, as soon as possible.

However, as to pushing ahead with the work of specific economic cooperation, the two sides differed in views as before. Namely, while the North side maintained that a pilot project, such as Nampo industrial park, should be pushed forward even before an agreement is reached at the North-South high-level talks, our side noted that pending issues, such as the nuclear issue, should be settled first.

Deputy Premier Choe noted that the North and the South have many areas where mutually complementary economic exchange is possible, given their natural resources and the industrial structure, and stressed that the authorities of the two sides should make efforts to create conditions so that entrepreneurs on both sides can expand exchanges in a free atmosphere. Deputy Premier Choe noted in particular that improvement of overall relations between the North and the South should precede this.

Present at the deputy premiers' talks from our side were Deputy Premier Choe; Han Kap-su, EPB vice minister; Kim Tae-yon, director general for External Economic Coordinating Division; Kang Hui-pok, first director of Economic Monitoring and Research Division, Choe Hwang-sop, adviser to the Board of National Unification; Vice Premier Kim; Chong Un-op, president of Samchon-ri Company. Yi Song-tae, vice trade councillor in China; Kim Chong-kuk, secretary to the deputy premier of the State Administration Council; and Yim Tae-tok, chief secretary of the Committee for External Economic Cooperation, were present from the North Korean side.

Prior to this, Vice Premier Kim held a news conference at Panmunjom on 19 July, in which he said: Even before North-South agreement is reached on comprehensive economic exchange and cooperation, let us implement cooperation and exchange for pilot joint projects. As for pilot joint projects, discussions may be required with the inviting side. However, the North position is to actively push ahead with such projects. He thus indicated hope for promptly undertaking full-scale North-South economic cooperation.

Our government refrained from expressing its official position on Vice Premier Kim's remarks about pilot joint projects. However, a relevant government official said that "the pilot joint project referred to by the North side appears to be a joint-venture plant in Nampo complex which was agreed between North Korea and Daewoo Business Group." He added that "until a few months ago, our government also planned to push ahead with pilot joint projects even before full-scale exchange and cooperation between the North and the South. However, implementation of economic cooperation was suspended due to the nuclear inspection issue. Thus, there is a great possibility that a pilot joint project can be pushed ahead full scale according to the North side's proposal."

In the meantime, Deputy Prime Minister Choe arranged a banquet at the Seoul Hilton Hotel on the evening of 19 July in honor of Vice Premier Kim and his party. In his banquet speech, Deputy Prime Minister Choe stressed: Our meeting this time will be an occasion for opening a new chapter in North-South economic exchange and cooperation. The two sides have many areas that complement each other in terms of natural resources and industrial structures. Thus, both sides should try to open doors for exchange and cooperation more promptly and more widely.

To this, Vice Premier Kim responded that "if the North and the South jointly strive for unified development of national economy, we will certainly be able to find measures beneficial to realizing economic cooperation and exchange."

YONHAP Reports Meeting

SK2007052192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0504 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon met with his South Korean counterpart, Choe Kak-kyu, Monday and they agreed to work together for early realization of economic cooperation between the two Koreas.

The agreement came in a 35-minute meeting of the top economic ministers that many observers believe could be a turning point in inter-Korean economic relations.

Kim, who arrived in Seoul via the truce village of Panmunjom on Sunday, called on Choe at the Economic Planning Board in Kwachon, south of Seoul, as he began the second day of his week-long visit.

At the meeting, Kim formally invited Choe to visit Pyongyang and Choe expressed his intention to accept the invitation, sources said. The date of Choe's visit was to be worked out through established inter-Korean channels.

The two deputy prime ministers also agreed to meet again, following Kim's visits to industrial plants in Seoul, Inchon and other parts of the country. They are expected to take up more specific issues for the promotion of inter-Korean economic ties, the sources said.

At Monday's meeting, Kim urged South Korea to help establish an industrial complex in Nampo, North Korea, and undertake other pilot joint projects even before the two sides arrive at formal agreements in the ongoing prime ministers' conference.

The southern side, however, stressed the need for the early resolution of the nuclear issue through mutual and simultaneous inspections of each other's nuclear facilities, the sources said.

Kim was scheduled to tour plants of Samsung Electronics Semiconductor Co. in Kiheung, south of Seoul, and Daewoo Motors Co. and Daewoo Heavy Industry Co., both in Inchon, on Monday afternoon. He will then attend a banquet hosted by five major economic organizations, including the Federation of Economic Organization, on Monday evening.

Businessmen Intrigued by Visit

SK1707041792 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 Jul 92 pp 8, 9

[By staff reporter Choe Song-chin]

[Text] A North Korean premier's [title as published] scheduled tour of South Korea's major industrial parks, despite Seoul officials' attempt to play it down, is stirring great expectations and wild guesses among local businessmen.

Inter-Korean merchandise trade, which doubled annually between 1988 and 1991, has almost stopped growing this year. Two-way trade between Seoul and Pyongyang, most of it indirect via Hong Kong and China, rose to $106.9 million in the first half of 1992, showing a 31 percent gain, from a year yearlier.

"To us, 30 percent growth is nothing in view of the great potential," a Hyundai Corp. official said.

In the six-month period, 54 contacts between businessmen of two Koreas were made under the approval of their governments. Any visible results have yet to come, though.

What froze the once vigorous inter-Korean economic cooperation, as is widely known among the public here, was Pyongyang's reluctance to open its nuclear facilities to challenge inspections by Seoul.

Politics aside, however, both sides are feeling the need to reopen their economic doors to each other.

The dirt-poor north has greater urgency to lure South Korean goods and investments, according to both local and foreign observers.

"Kim Tal-hyon, however, the expected guest from the north, may not have the key to remove deadlocks in trade and investment projects but just wants to watch the "southern" economy and confirm whether South Korea is a partner worthy of asking for help," said Vice Minister of Trade and Industry Pak Yong-to yesterday.

There are also some real obstacles to full-blown economic ties between the divided halves of the Korean Peninsula, which still are technically at war, another MTI [Ministry of Trade and Industry] official said.

"In a purely economic sense, North Korea has few items of commercial viability to sell to South Korea, except for zinc ingots," said Yi Won-kol, director of the MTI's Trade Administration Division. He added that the lack of an investment protection accord would make any meaningful investment by southern entrepreneurs virtually impossible.

He acknowledged that Daewoo Business Group chairman Kim U-chung's much-publicized plan to set up nine joint-venture light industrial plants in the North Korean port city of Nampo has few problems.

"This is because the proposed plant will use machinery from Daewoo that would otherwise be scrapped and because Daewoo can utilize cheap North Korean labor, whose wage level is only one tenth of South Korean workers," the MTI official in charge of inter-Korean trade said. "However, Daewoo or any other conglomerate will find it next to impossible to go any further in direct investments there without the legal protection of an investment guarantee agreement."

Dr. Choe Sin-im, a research fellow at a state-financed think tank, agrees. "Such lack of safety devices was behind the government's move to put the brakes on the Daewoo group chief's rather hasty North Korean advance in February, in addition to the primary reason of Pyongyang's foot-dragging in the nuclear issue," said Choe of the Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade [KIET].

Businesses may undertake whatever projects they want at their own risks, but the government must have found it somewhat risky to let them proceed in their own wayward manner, according to the KIET researcher.

There are also external factors hindering the free expansion of South-North Korean trade. MTI's Yi cited such examples as the possible intervention by third countries, including the United States, which will likely take issue with the tariff-free inter- Korean trade as a violation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade rule.

"The U.S. is currently raising no objections to free inter-Korean trade but will probably do so when the volume reaches a certain level," Yi said.

Major business groups, aware or unaware of the call of technocrats and academics for prudence, are preparing to jump into North Korea at the first green light from the government.

Almost all of the big-10 chaebol, the large conglomerates that dominate the Korean economy, have set up task forces for "northern" projects with some of them having already worked out detailed business plans.

Keeping relative silence amid the latest northern fever is Hyundai Group, once the frontrunner in northern projects but now has been forced to take the back seat since its founder Chong Chu-yong formed an opposition political party and declared his candidacy in the December presidential election.

"The businesses' move to jump on the North Korean bandwagon, should be understood as natural in the longterm view," said KIET's Choe.

Assuming that the politico-economic climate on the Korean Peninsula continues to improve, inter-Korean trade may swell to $1 billion in no time, he said. Yi noted that the government may have completed setting up investment guidelines, specifying investment lines, amounts and regions.

Some North Korean leaders, who know that their economy is behind South Korea by 10 to 20 years, ardently want to increase two-way trade to $1 billion, or

20 percent of their total trade. They also badly need southern capital and know-how to save the economy from bankruptcy, he said.

Most analysts here say that if the two Koreas are to be unified some day, the unification costs need to be minimal, a task that can be achieved only by gradual cooperation, however dismal their political relationship may be right now.

Daewoo To Send Delegation North in August

SK1807013192 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Jul 92 p 8

[By staff reporter Choe Won-suk]

[Text] Timed with North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon's visit to Seoul July 19-25, the government will soon permit enterprises to dispatch their missions to the North to study the feasibility of inter-Korean joint projects.

The Daewoo Group plans to send a 20-member delegation to North Korea next month to investigate the joint production of textiles and footwear as well as the joint development of zinc mines.

Daewoo forwarded an application to the government in February to send a mission to study the feasibility of establishing a joint industrial estate in Nampo which was agreed on between its chairman Kim U-chung and North Korea when Kim visited the North in January at the invitation of North Korean Deputy Premier Kim.

But the government withheld approval of Daewoo's application because of inter-Korean political issues including the inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities.

A high-ranking government official, however, said yesterday that Daewoo's application to send a mission to the North is still effective.

He said, "If the Daewoo Group finalizes its plan to send a delegation to North Korea, it won't have to apply to the government for permission."

The 20-member fact-finding mission which Daewoo will dispatch to North Korea next month will include some experts on footwear and zinc mines.

As for the construction of the Nampo industrial complex, Daewoo said that it will take only three to four months because the Nampo area has no problem in the supply of electricity, while providing many positive conditions.

It predicted that the joint South-North production of textiles and footwear in the Nampo industrial complex would be realized early next year.

Daewoo said that when the mission visits North Korea next month, a northern expert on the development of zinc mines will join it as South Korea is entirely dependent on imports of zinc ingots.

Meanwhile, the Daewoo Group plans to dispatch a second mission to North Korea to substantiate six other projects which were also agreed upon between Chairman Kim and the North during Kim's trip to Pyongyang in January.

The six projects are the joint South-North production of color TVs, bags, refrigerators, toys, dresses and kitchenware.

The second delegation will also include some experts outside Daewoo.

In the meantime, other business groups including Hyundai, Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar and Sunkyong are endeavoring to send their own missions to the North to cement economic and trade relationships.

Like Daewoo, they have been pursuing joint projects in North Korea.

They also plan to send a joint mission to the North in September, according to business sources.

The sources said that their leaders will disclose the idea to North Korean economic experts accompanying Deputy Premier Kim during a dinner slated for July 20.

Other projects which North Korea seeks to carry out in cooperation with South Korea include the construction of a fishery goods processing plant, a shipyard, a power plant and four food factories, and the development of granite and marble mines.

Textile Industry Favors Exchange With North

SK1807021992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0134 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—The capital and technology of South Korea and the cheap labor of North Korea should be combined in inter-Korean textile industrial exchanges, the Korea Federation of Textile Industries (KFTI) said Saturday.

The South would regain its competitive power, dulled by wage hikes and manpower shortages, and the North would would acquire much-needed foreign currency through such bilateral cooperation, KFTI said.

The exchanges would begin as swapping information and develop into reciprocal visits, material exchanges, joint ventures using southern technology and capital and cheap northern labor, a free trade zone and exclusive complexes for textile companies, and in the end, lead to formation of a single economic entity, KFTI forecast.

Initially, exchangeable items would be raw silk, flax, cotton yarn, unprocessed cloth and textile products from North Korea and dyed products and artificial fibers from South Korea, it said.

If relations moved ahead smoothly, South Korea could buy 820 million U.S. dollars of textile goods, including rayon and cloth, from North Korea instead of importing it, KFTI said.

North Korea's textile industry was still in its infancy in the raw silk, rayon and cloth fields, but more or less competitive in the sewing field, it said.

Pyongyang has been trying to introduce ultra-modern facilities in a joint venture with Koreans living in Japan since the mid-1980s, putting more emphasis on the artificial fiber industry than on the natural fiber industry.

Report Lists Likely Inter-Korean Trade Items

SK1807024592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0210 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—North Korea has 67 items the South should consider buying, and South Korea has 62 the North might be interested in if inter-Korean industrial cooperation is achieved, according to a report issued Friday by the Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET).

KIET based its report on a study of items and amounts traded by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) during 1988 and 1989.

South Korea should consider buying 20 non-food items, including cork and lumber, 19 products of various basic materials such as iron and steel, 18 items of foods and live animals, five items of clothes and miscellaneous products, three items of machinery, and one mineral fuel, the report said.

Promising items to be sold to North Korea are 31 items of machinery, 18 items of textiles and non-metal minerals, 11 miscellaneous items including clothes and assembly-ready construction parts, three chemical products and one food item.

Of the North Korean items, 15 are those OECD imports from North Korea in amounts of 1 million U.S. dollars or more. Among these are fish, lumber, yarn, magnesia, cast iron, bird feathers, anthracite, unprocessed aluminum, aluminum alloy, lead and lead alloy, ferrochromium, and rolled iron and steel plate.

In addition, 16 of the promising items to be sold to North Korea are those OECD exports in amounts of at least 500,000 dollars to North Korea and which South Korea sells at least a million dollars of to OECD countries.

These include cars, buses, assembly-ready construction parts, plastic containers, transmitting equipment, color televisions, telephones, chandeliers, steel wires, ropes, cables, synthetic fabric, and rubber conveyor belts.

Plan To Expand Roads Near Panmunjom Announced

SK1807061092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government, in preparation for full-fledged inter-Korean economic cooperation and reunification, has drawn up blueprints to expand or pave roads leading to the truce line, Construction Ministry officials said Saturday.

The Construction Ministry plans to expand the frontline sections of National Highways No. 1, No. 3 and No. 7, which are expected to be major land routes for cross-border travel when inter-Korean economic cooperation begins.

Blueprints for two of the three roads were completed in June and that for the remaining one, Highway No. 1, will be finished in September, they said. The ministry started its preparations in August last year.

The first state highway, which would link the southwestern port City of Mokpo with North Korea's Shineuiju through Seoul, will have the 11.2-kilometer section from Panmunjum to Freedom Bridge expanded from two to four lanes and have a new four-lane bridge over the Imjin River near Freedom Bridge. The cost is estimated at 15.5 billion won.

A 12-km stretch of two-lane road between Shintan-li and Woljung-li (near the truce line) on Highway No. 3, a segment of which would link Cholwon in the South with Pyonggang in the North, will be paved at a cost of 11.3 billion won.

A 3.2-km stretch of Highway No. 7 from Myongho-li to Songhyonjin-li on the east coast will be paved at a cost of 2.5 billion won, ministry officials said.

Political Subcommittee Fails To Reach Agreement

SK1807063892 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0600 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] South and North Korea held a members' contact of the political subcommittee at the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom on 18 July, and discussed the drafting of the annexed agreement concerning reconciliation. No agreements were reached. Both sides agreed to meet again on 30 July at Panmunjom to continue negotiations on the annexed agreement.

In today's contact, our side clarified to the North side that the ones promoting South-North reconciliation are the authorities of the South and North and that our position is that paragraphs that can be easily agreed upon should be settled first.

Our side also presented to the North side the revised six paragraphs in Article six of Chapter three of the annexed agreement which includes the part that says that one side will not interfere in the other side's law and order and government policies.

Draft Accord To Be Proposed at JNCC Meeting

SK2007054792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0533 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea will present North Korea with a draft agreement supplementing the joint declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula at the seventh meeting of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) Tuesday, a government official said Monday.

The official said the decision was made in a meeting of working-level officials from the National Unification Board, and the foreign and defense ministeries Monday. Kong No-myong, southern-side chairman of the JNCC, presided over the meeting.

"We will present the draft to expedite the settlement of a mutual inspection regime," he said.

The government would reiterate its position that the two Koreas should open each other's nuclear facilities to challenge inspections by the other side. A challenge inspection refers to a system under which one side should open its facilities to probe by the other side within 24 hours of request.

"It is true that expectations for inter-Korean economic cooperation are rising high with the visit to Seoul of North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon. However, our government holds steadfastly to its position of linking economic cooperation to the nuclear issue and plans to reaffirm it during the seventh JNCC meeting," the official said.

Resolution of Nuclear Issue Sought by September

SK2007020592 Seoul YONHAP in English
0149 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—Seoul is to urge Pyongyang to resolve the nuclear controversy before the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks in September, officials said Monday.

Seoul will propose to Pyongyang, through visiting Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon, specific economic cooperation projects for implementation after the prime ministers's talks on condition that the nuclear problem is solved, they said.

Kim, who is also chairman of the external economy commission, began a weeklong visit to South Korea Sunday.

"The primary purpose of Kim's visit is to understand South Korea's economy," an official said. "But considering his status in North Korea, he and South Korean officials would discuss economic cooperation, nuclear and other wide range of issues."

The matter might be discussed when Kim met with Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu, Unification Minister Choe Yong-chol and President No Tae-u, he said.

"The government will deliver a clear message that it will pursue active inter-Korean joint economic ventures after the nuclear problem is solved by the next prime ministers' meeting," the official said.

The North Korean official was expected to negotiate various projects with South Korean business leaders during his visit, he said.

Seoul plans to gradually allow working-level study teams from private enterprises to visit North Korea after Kim's trip, the official said.

'Modified' Nuclear Inspection Policy Examined

SK1907134292 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
19 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] It was revealed on 18 July that the ROK Government has modified its policy on South-North mutual nuclear inspections. The modified policy is as follows: The ROK Government will push to the end its demand for special inspections [tukpyolsachal] in which the two sides would inspect each other's facilities on 24 hours notice. It also will assume a flexible attitude on regular inspections in which the two sides would inspect an equal number of each other's facilities on a limited number of occasions per year.

It was also learned that the government's new policy had been adopted at a recent meeting between high-ranking ROK and U.S. officials to discuss the invitation of North Korean Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon to Seoul. A high-ranking ROK Government source said on the day of the meeting: "The North Korean nuclear issue has been handled based on the U.S. strategic concept that 'nuclear weapons must not be proliferated worldwide.'" The U.S. Government has notified the ROK Government that in North-South nuclear negotiations, the ROK Government must push without fail special inspections [tukpyolsachal] (mandatory inspections [kangjesachal]), which will make it possible to confirm whether North Korea has been developing nuclear weapons.

This source also said: "The U.S. Government's position is that regular inspections conducted on the principle of an equal number of sites are meaningless and that it should be made possible to inspect 'any area' under suspicion of nuclear development 'at any time.'" He then added: "Thus, it will not be easy to conclude the nuclear negotiations."

In connection with this, another government official concerned said: "The U.S. Government has revealed this position to prevent the possibility that if inspection of several nuclear facilities or military bases based on the principle of an equal number of sites fails to locate North Korean nuclear development facilities, this will provide North Korea with 'excellent propaganda material' and will make it difficult to inspect North Korean facilities again."

The government is planning to inform North Korea of this policy and to urge North Korea to change its position when North Korean Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon comes to the ROK on 19 July.

This source also said: "I know that the U.S. Government, at a contact in Beijing between U.S. and North Korean counselors and on other occasions, has informed North Korea that 'if North Korea accepts special inspections [tukpyolsachal], it will be possible for North Korea to have vice-ministerial contact with the United States and to conclude negotiations for diplomatic relations with Japan." He added: "How North Korea will respond will be noteworthy."

Officials Planning To Discuss Sports Exchanges

SK2007014192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0118 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Barcelona, July 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea is ready to meet with South Korean officials during the Olympics and discuss sports exchanges with no conditions attached, top North Korean sports official Kim Yu-sun said Sunday.

"North and South Korean sports should develop by helping each other," Kim said in an interview with YONHAP News Agency. "When we meet South Korean sports and youth minister Yi Chin-sam or other South Korean officials at conferences or games, we can talk about the issues without any conditions attached."

Kim, head of North Korea's Olympic Committee and its physical culture and sports guidance commission, arrived here late Sunday to attend the general meeting of the International Olympic Committee, starting Tuesday.

The two Koreas fielded joint teams to the world table tennis championships and world youth soccer championship last year for first time since national division in 1945.

But sports talks broke off in August after North Korean judoka Yi Chang-su defected to Seoul. Yi and Kim met the earlier this year at the Winter Olympics in Albertville, France, and agreed in principle to resume the talks, but there was no follow-up.

Asked about North Korea's chances in the Olympics, Kim said his country hoped for a few golds in gymnastics but games were hard to predict.

He did not disclose the size of the North Korean team, but an aide said there were 64 athletes and 44 officials.

Kim arrived with an advance team, and the athletes and other officials are expected Wednesday morning.

Defense Ministry Asks Russia To End DPRK Pact

SK1807102592 Seoul YONHAP in English 1009 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry has recently asked Russia to repeal its military alliance treaty with North Korea, but diplomatic officials did not readily endorse the move.

A Defense Ministry official said Saturday Vice Defense Minister Kwon Wong-hae urged a visiting senior Russian general last month to repeal the Moscow-Pyongyang treaty before concluding a basic treaty with South Korea.

Kwon made the call during his meeting with General Bronislav Omelichev, first deputy director of the general staff of the Russian forces, at his office on June 4.

"Vice Minister Kwon stressed before the Russian general that if a basic treaty were signed with Seoul without removing the Moscow-Pyongyang military pact, it could be a major obstacle to the advancement of South Korea-Russia relations," the Ministry official said.

The official said that in early April, too, the Defense Ministry called in the Russian military attache in Seoul and informed him of this stand of the Ministry.

However, some sectors of the administration did not agree to the stand of the Defense Ministry.

"This was a move made in disrgard of diplomatic practices. Besides, in making the call, the Defense Ministry took into account military factors alone," an administration official said.

The official said such a demand may set off unnecessary frictions in negotiations now going on between the two countries for a basic Seoul-Moscow treaty expected to be signed during President Boris Yeltsin's planned visit to Seoul in September.

In this connection, a Foreign Ministry official said, "under diplomatic practices, we cannot ask Russia, a sovereign nation, to revise military-alliance clauses of the USSR-North Korea Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, much less their repeal."

Since Russia retains formal relations with North Korea, this is something which Russia should handle on its own account. "We cannot under any circumstances make such a repeal a prerequisite to the conclusion of a basic treaty," he said.

The official added that although Russia has succeeded to the USSR-North Korea military alliance treaty, it has in effect been rendered a dead paper now.

"The two countries have already reached an understanding of this during Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok's visit to Moscow late last month," the official said.

Government Not Against Pacific Security Dialogue

SK1807061792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0540 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea, in its first positive response to regional multilateral security talks, is to propose political and security dialogue among the nations of the Asia-Pacific region in a speech at the conference of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) next week, officials said Saturday.

In the speech, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok will clarify that Seoul is still against institutionalizing a negotiating body but is not against dialogue, the officials said.

Yi leaves for Manila Wednesday to attend a post-ministerial conference (PMC) between the six association members and their seven full-dialogue partners.

The PMC is slated for July 24-26, and Yi will address ASEAN members on July 25 and 26.

Former Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama proposed at last year's PMC that senior officials from participating nations hold regional political and security talks within the conference.

South Korea and the United States responded negatively, saying bilateral negotiations were more effective than multilateral talks.

"We are still opposed to Nakayama's formula for the reasons we stated at the time, but we fully recognize that global and regional situations have changed considerably since then," a Foreign Ministry official said.

"We intend to make it known that South Korea is not all negative to regional dialogue, that we will actively participate in such dialogue," he said.

DLP Suffers Intraparty Dispute Over Leadership

SK1907015692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] is now embroiled in an intra-party dispute over the authenticity of reports saying former party secretary general Kim Yun-hwan was seeking to succeed to the party leadership by pushing the two incumbent co-chairmen Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun to the sidelines.

The "notes" which were circulating around the party headquarters since the presidential nomination convention on May 19, indicate that Kim will emerge as the virtual leader of the ruling camp after executive chairman Kim Yong-sam, who is the presidential nominee for the coming elections in December.

The former secretary general Kim was the very person who rallied the support of the party's majority Minjong faction behind executive chairman Kim in the nomination process.

Kim himself, however, flatly denied such a report, dubbing it a scheme to undermine party solidarity.

"The reorganization of the party leadership solely rests on the party president, President No Tae-u, and executive chairman Kim," he said.

It is nonsense to raise the issue at this time when the party should make concerted efforts to win the presidential elections late this year, he said.

The aides of the two co-chairmen vented their anger over the report, saying, "It couldn't happen under any circumstances."

Party secretary general Kim Yong-ku also rebuffed the report by saying, "How on earth the leadership change can be raised without my knowledge."

DP Lashes Out at UPP Plan To Rejoin Assembly

SK1807004892 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Jul 92 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column entitled: "Broken Promise"]

[Text] The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] yesterday lashed out at Chong Chu-yong, leader of the minor opposition United People's Party [UPP], for making conciliatory gestures toward the ruling party.

Yi Ki-taek, DP co-chairman, called Chong's party a "semi-ruling party," referring to Chong's move to join forces with the ruling party to resume parliamentary operations.

Chong earlier in the day proposed to the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] that his party and the DLP jointly resume the National Assembly, which has been idled for over two weeks over the local election question.

Chong's offer runs counter to the DP position that the opposition should continue to boycott the Assembly unless the ruling party agrees to hold local elections of mayors, provincial governors and other local administrative chiefs this year.

DP's Yi told reporters: "Chong is breaking his promise to keep unity with our party over the local election question, for no justifiable reasons. His move would only deepen public distrust of politicians."

"It would be meaningless for the two parties to resume sessions of the Assembly without the presence of the largest opposition party," he asserted.

The UPP is basically a party akin to the ruling group," Yi charged. "I had long been concerned that it might suddenly change its attitude one day. And the change has come somewhat earlier than I expected."

UPP To Propose Impeachment of Prime Minister

SK1807030492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] Kyongju, July 18 (YONHAP)—The minor opposition Unification National Party [UNP—recently changed to United People's Party, UPP] decided Saturday to formally propose a meeting between its leader, Chong Chu-yong, and Kim Yong-sam, the executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

It also decided to attend the National Assembly in the middle of next week in order to help normalize the long-idled assembly.

Moreover, the UNP will table a resolution in the National Assembly to impeach Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and his entire cabinet for failing to carry out the local elections as required by the nation's election law.

The elections of provincial governors, mayors and other heads of local autonomous governing bodies had been the stumbling block for the National Assembly, which has been idled for three weeks since its inauguration at the end of June. The opposition parties had refused to attend the assembly unless the government and the ruling party agreed to hold the elections within this year.

The government postponed the elections to beyond 1991, citing economic burden on the nation.

The UNP's floor leader, Kim Chong-nam, called his ruling party counterpart, Kim Yong-tae, and agreed to a Chong-Kim Yong-sam meeting at 7 p.m. next Tuesday.

Prior to the party leaders' meeting, the UNP plans to hold a conference of representatives on Monday to discuss parliamentary strategy, including the formation of standing committees, before attending the National Assembly around July 23, party sources said.

The UNP will also propose a meeting of senior party officials of three parties, including the main opposition Democratic Party.

Saying that most of the people want lawmakers to take care of parliamentary affairs, Chong predicted that when the UNP representatives begin to attend the assembly, 10 independents and Rep. Pak Chan-chong, leader of the New Political Reform Party, will follow suit.

Chong said he was convinced the main opposition Democratic Party would also attend the National Assembly eventually.

Burma

Allegations on Refugees in Bangladesh Denied

BK1607144392 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] In accordance with the agreement reached between the leaders of Burma and Bangladesh, Burma has prepared five repatriation centers to accept those who fled to Bangladesh since 19 May 1992. It has been learned that the country on the other side was unable to return those who fled the country.

In this present situation, the VOA, AIR [All India Radio], and Pakistani and Malaysian newspapers have carried allegations that Burma is trying to avoid discussions on accepting those who fled to the other side.

On hearing these allegations, personnel from the Myanmar [Burma] News Agency domestic section, in order to know the true situation and to produce the correct news, went to the Immigration and Manpower Department [IMPD] this evening and inquired about the situation with the responsible officials.

At the meeting responsible personnel from the IMPD explained in detail the true situation regarding those who fled the country.

Khin Nyunt Urges Rebels To Join Convention

BK1707163892

[Editorial Report] Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese at 1339 GMT on 17 July carries a 29-minute recorded speech by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and chairman of the National Health Committee, delivered at the closing ceremony of the Special Refresher Training Course No. 1 for doctors held at the Central Public Services Institute in Phaunggyi at 0900 [0130 GMT] on 17 July.

Khin Nyunt begins by greeting those present at the ceremony and explains the objectives of the training course, calling it a historical landmark. He urges the trainees to be patriotic and show their love for the country, and says he hopes they are ready to serve the people.

He explains the history of patriotism since the time of the Burmese kings up to the struggle for independence. He next justifies the seizure of state power in both 1962 and 1988, and says it was necessary to prevent disintegration of the union. He urges the trainees to work patriotically for national unity.

He briefly explains developments in the border region and reminds that the present time is a preparatory period to work for the emergence of a firm state constitution, which he says is the responsibility of the trainees and all the citizens.

He then says: "We will not accept any pressure or interference from any country when drawing up the Constitution. This is a very important time for the emergence of a Constitution, free of outside influence and in accordance with the absolute situation of the Union of Myanmar [Burma]. The Constitution of Myanmar must be born from within the hearts and minds of the national races of Myanmar. It must be a law based on national unity and national solidarity."

He discusses the insurgents in the jungles. He refers to Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt's speech delivered at the 10 July third coordination meeting for the convening of the national convention. He says: "Since this is the time for all to collectively work to regain national unity, the government has stopped military offensives, and it considers this initiative an invitation for the insurgents to return to the legal fold. In over 40 years of insurgent strife to gain state power through armed struggle, many lives of brother nationals have already been lost. They do not know what their goal is, and how many more lives will be lost is unpredictable.

"Now, the door has opened for all national races to participate in the national convention. I would like to reiterate Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt's statement that the only way for the insurgents to participate in this national convention is to give up the policy of armed struggle and return to the legal fold in time. Try to achieve your own goals. National races should coordinate and cooperate among themselves to walk happily on a peaceful political path. In the future, if conditions permit the formation of political parties, I hope there will be more opportunities for them to work for the benefit of the country and people within the framework of the law."

In conclusion, Khin Nyunt explains that the success of the training course depends on the achievements gained in the training by the trainees, and he urges the trainees to implement what they have learned for the betterment of the country and the national races. He urges the trainees to cooperate and work with the national races for the emergence of a firm Constitution.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Deputy Minister Reaffirms Claim on Spratlys

BK2007023092 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 14 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Taiping, Monday—Malaysia has strong facts to prove its ownership over the Spratlys in the South China Sea, Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said.

According to him, Malaysia is, however, ready for talks to settle its claim because several other countries—China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Brunei, and the Philippines—have also laid claim to the islands. He said that the government in this regard welcomed Indonesia's efforts to act as a mediator in talks between Malaysia and certain parties over the matter.

He said that most of the claimants, including Malaysia, had established their respective military bases in anticipation of any eventualities.

Dr. Abdullah said that Malaysia was ready to sit at the negotiation table with the other claimants to settle the claim over the islands.

Minister Welcomes Philippine Proposal on Spratlys

BK2007064692 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0611 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 20 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi welcomed the proposal by the Philippines that claimants of the disputed Spratly Islands set aside the question of sovereignty as a step towards resolving the dispute and he said it was a "good start".

He said: "It is a proposal to begin with... It is a good start to talk about the issue and I would certainly want to discuss that proposal (at the ASEAN ministerial meeting). But, I hope the question of settling the dispute, as well as working out any formula, would be confined (only) to the claimants."

He was speaking to reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport Monday before leaving for Manila to attend the 25th AMM [ASEAN Ministerial Meeting].

The group of islands, strategically located in the middle of the South China Sea, is being claimed by China, Vietnam, Philippines, Taiwan, and Brunei. The area, some 320 km off the East Malaysian state of Sabah, is said to be rich in oil and minerals. Most of the claimants have stationed troops on the cluster of islands and reefs.

Tension mounted when China signed an agreement with a U.S. company to undertake oil exploration in an area claimed by Vietnam as its continental shelf.

Abdullah stressed that any solution to the dispute should not involve outside interference.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus Sunday proposed that the question of sovereignty and jurisdiction of the disputed islands be set aside while joint exploitation of the natural resources there was carried out by the claimants. Manglapus said he would put forward the proposal at the AMM Tuesday and also at the Post-Ministerial meeting (PMM) with ASEAN's dialogue partners following that.

The Spratly issue is expected to be a key issue during the AMM Tuesday and PMM with the seven dialogue partners, among them the United States, Japan, and the European Community.

Abdullah said China was agreeable to some form of joint exploration, but it still insisted on absolute sovereignty over the disputed areas. Abdullah said the proposal is also similar to the one undertaken by Malaysia and Vietnam in June where both countries agreed to share the petroleum resources in the area.

The memorandum of understanding on joint exploration in a 530-square nautical miles area northwest of Malaysia and southwest of Vietnam was signed by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ahmad Kamil Jaafar and Vietnamese Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Vu Khoan.

Mahathir Warns Singapore Press on Creating Tension

BK1907154692 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Pulau Redang, Thurs.—The Singaporean press have been advised not to play up issues that could create a lot of tension between the governments of Malaysia and the island republic.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today that Malaysia had always wanted to be friendly with its neighbours but some Singaporean newspapers purposely played up certain issues.

"If you want to raise things that are contentious, then we can create a lot of tension," he said in response to a question on the tension building up between Johor and Singapore that had affected bilateral relations.

"The governments do not talk very much about certain things so why raise issues. If an issue is raised by a third party then the press should not be influenced by them," he told reporters.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia wanted to co-operate with its neighbours and in this respect the Malaysian papers have been sensible and did not play up issues that could create tension.

"But sometimes there is a lot of talk that we are unreasonable is being bandied around in Singapore," he added.

Cambodia

Communique Issued on 16 Jul SNC Meeting

BK1907061892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 18 Jul 92

["Communique on the Meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council on 16 July"—read by announcer]

[Text] At 0900 on 16 July at Khemarin Palace, a meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] was held under the lofty chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, with the participation of Mr. Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general for Cambodia. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and Indonesia, cochairman of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

1. Examination of economic and social aspects of the peace process and restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia:

Statements were respectively made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Ieng Muli, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Mr. Hor Namhong, Mr. Khieu Samphan, and the United Kingdom's representative in his capacity as the coordinator of the core group.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk said the majority of the Cambodian people feel grateful to the United Nations, which has provided them with aid for restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia, stressing that we cannot afford to delay the process in the interest of the Cambodian people.

Mr. Akashi fully endorsed HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk's statement and urged all parties to accept the Chairman's report on restoration.

Three parties voiced their support for the report. However, one party accepted most of the program mentioned in the report but expressed reservations about one program. Mr. Khieu Samphan stated that while the SNC has not assumed its authority as prescribed by the Paris accord, it has been called upon to borrow money that will benefit a party which has been installed as a government and controlled by foreign forces under (?conditions) against the letter and spirit of the Paris accord.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk reassured Mr. Khieu Samphan that no favor was given to any particular party, only the entire Cambodian people, who will benefit. Mr. Yasushi Akashi also gave the same guarantee.

After emphasizing his urgent decision for the sake of the Cambodian people's interest, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk declared that the SNC unanimously endorsed the report.

2. Miscellaneous items:

Statements made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Messrs. Akashi, Hor Namhong, Ieng Muli, and Khieu Samphan:

Mr. Akashi stated that the UN secretary general would present his report to the UNSC and on the basis of the report the council would carry out some activities. He told the SNC about the UNTAC's provincial office to be set up in Kandal Province. This reflects UNTAC's resolve to supervise administration in all the provinces. Mr. Akashi also expressed his concern over the systematic violations of the cease-fire by one party and expressed regret on the party's absenteeism at meetings of the Mixed Military Working Group.

Responding to Mr. Akashi's remarks, Mr. Khieu Samphan said that since the signing of the Paris accord, his forces have come under repeated attacks.

Mr. Akashi reported that the process of placing troops of all the parties, except that of one party, in cantonments has made progress.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk urged one party as well as other parties to avoid violations and to fully cooperate with UNTAC and the latter's operation.

Mr. Ieng Muli read Mr. Son Sann's proposals for the correct and complete implementation by the four Cambodian parties of the Paris accord as well as the unofficial Tokyo document. Mr. Khieu Samphan voiced his total support for the suggestions and called on the SNC and UNTAC to consider the proposals as the basis of discussion.

The next SNC meeting will be held at 0900 on 23 July.

Son Sann Makes 'Proposal'

BK1807035892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Jul 92

["Excerpt of proposal made by His Excellency Son Sann, member of the Supreme National Council and chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front"; dated 16 July 1992; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] On 16 July 1992, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], made a proposal of which here is the excerpt:

I would like to make an urgent appeal to all four Cambodian parties and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] to let the SNC under His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk's chairmanship continue its work in order to correctly, fully, and quickly implement the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. To achieve this goal I would like to make the following proposal:

1. All Vietnamese aggressor forces should be withdrawn from Cambodia under UNTAC supervision.

2. Vietnamese nationals and other foreign immigrants in Cambodia should not have the right to vote.

3. The issue of Cambodia's territorial integrity should be resolved.

The first issue should be solved before going into the second phase of the cease-fire. Most importantly, Vietnam should confirm in writing that it has withdrawn all its forces from Cambodia, including experts, advisers, and ammunition by clearly specifying the dates and routes, the number of troops and military materiel Vietnam has withdrawn from Cambodia, and guarantee in writing that it will not return to Cambodia.

To avoid misunderstanding, it is necessary to specify that:

1. The Cambodian people categorically do not agree to let Vietnamese take part in the forthcoming elections.

2. Cambodia's territorial integrity within the framework of Cambodia's pre-1970 border should be solved and guarantee given before the elections in 1993.

Concerning the structure of the existing administration, everyone agrees that no other government should exist apart from the SNC and UNTAC. In Western countries practicing liberal democracy, the administration means offices [words indistinct] remain the same; however, if there is a change in the government, the political machinery is also changed accordingly. Therefore, there is no longer any government in Cambodia; there are no political establishments. There are no representatives of the communist party in all parts of the administration, particularly personalities who have direct or indirect influence on the organization of free, democratic, and just elections in 1993.

Representatives of the four Cambodian parties in the SNC have no other positions apart from being members of the SNC. Permanent and genuine control of UNTAC and the SNC are exercised not only on the five sectors but on all affairs which have influence on the elections and at all levels, from the capital to provinces, districts, communes, and villages.

Khmer Rouge 'Statement' on Implementing Accord

BK1907020292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Jul 92

["Statement by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea on the Current Situation in Cambodia"; signed by Khieu Samphan; dated 18 July—read by announcer]

[Text] The Paris agreement on Cambodia has been signed for nearly nine months. How far have efforts been made to achieve peace, security, and national reconciliation in Cambodia in accordance with the spirit and essence of the Paris agreement? This is an issue about which peace and justice-loving countries the world over have been asking.

The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] holds that it is necessary to inform the world about the current Cambodian situation as follows:

1. Vietnam continues to occupy Cambodia under the so-called Phnom Penh Government which it has propped up since 1979 in order to use as a tool of aggression to occupy Cambodia. There has been no change whatsoever in this situation.

2. Vietnamese cadres in charge of overt and covert war have disguised themselves as civilians to continue preparations to strengthen, expand, and administer Vietnam's state authority networks in Cambodia and Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia.

3. Vietnam continues to attack the Democratic Kampuchean force, which is one of the Cambodian national resistance forces, and has been dispatching reinforcements to Cambodia.

4. Vietnamese settlers continue to incessantly flow into Cambodia effecting changes in Cambodian society in every sector: demographic changes and those relating to national customs, culture, literature, and so on. In short, the policy to Vietnamize Cambodia continues unabated.

5. The number of Vietnamese settlers holding Cambodian identity cards has reached nearly 1 million.

6. The issue concerning Vietnam's alteration of land and maritime borders to annex Cambodia's islands and sea has not yet been solved.

Thus, nearly nine months after the signing of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement on Cambodia, there is still no sign of peace, security, and national reconciliation in Cambodia. The reason is because the Paris agreement has not yet been correctly and comprehensively implemented. In particular, major and key provisions of the agreement—which say that the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] should closely cooperate with the Supreme National Council [SNC] to comprehensively supervise the implementation of the Paris agreement—have not yet been implemented. The government propped up by the Vietnamese aggressors continues to play a role in administering and deciding all state affairs in Cambodia. The situation in Cambodia—in which there is still no peace, security, and national reconciliation—remains a constant threat to peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia.

To solve this problem, the PDK has put forward successive proposals, particularly the ones dated 27 June 1992 and 12 July 1992, in a spirit to get the Paris agreement correctly and comprehensively implemented. All Cambodian national resistance forces, the entire Cambodian people, and all Cambodians in and outside the country are very concerned about the situation described above and have clearly expressed their concern because this directly affects the Cambodian nation's survival.

The PDK would like to join the entire Cambodian people and nation in appealing to peace and justice-loving countries the world over to push for the correct and comprehensive implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement on Cambodia. Only by implementing the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement correctly and comprehensively can there be peace, security, and national reconciliation in Cambodia and can peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia also be assured.

[Dated] Cambodia, 18 July 1992

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, chairman of the PDK and SNC member

Commentary on KR 'Right' of Self-Defense

BK1907022892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Unattributed commentary: "If the Paris Agreement Continues To Be Grossly Interpreted In Order To Legitimize the Occupation of Cambodia by Vietnam and Puppets, the Cambodian People Also Have the Right To Do Everything To Defend Their Nation and Race"]

[Text] Everyone knows that Vietnam has been committing aggression against Cambodia since 25 December 1978. Everyone also knows that the goal of the Cambodian nation, people, and the Cambodian national resistance forces over more than 13 years is to get the Vietnamese aggressors withdrawn from Cambodia so that the country has independence and peace and so that the Cambodian people have the right to self-determination in a neutral political atmosphere and national reconciliation. It is in this sense that the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces have abided by, implemented, and put their trust in the Paris agreement, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], and the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC].

However, for over eight months the Paris agreement has not been implemented according to its real essence. On the contrary, the enemies of the Cambodian nation and people have interpreted the Paris agreement as they please in accordance with a political and strategic goal based on colonialism and expansionism aimed at smashing the Cambodian national resistance forces and keeping the Vietnamese aggressors and their lackey puppet regime in control to continue occupying Cambodia.

This is a very painful lesson both for the Cambodian nation and people and other small and weak countries the world over and for contemporary world history. We know that Cambodia is the goal of aggressors and expansionists who have many times attempted to annex it. We need to solve this problem with Vietnam withdrawing from Cambodia so that the Cambodian people can live with independence, in peace, and with national reconciliation. This is why the Cambodian people need UNTAC and the SNC to have full rights and power and to closely cooperate in ensuring that the Paris agreement is concretely implemented in Cambodia.

However, if the Paris agreement continues to be grossly interpreted in order to maintain the Vietnamese aggressors and puppets in power and enable them to continue committing aggression against and occupy Cambodia, then the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces also have full rights to do everything to defend their nation and race until the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is implemented in its real essence.

Khmer Rouge Urge SNC-UNTAC Cooperation

BK1807020892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Unattributed commentary: "People Can Judge Who Are Hindering the Implementation of the Second Phase of the Cease-Fire"]

[Text] The implementation of the Paris agreement in the second phase of the cease-fire has been deadlocked. People keep asking what and who has caused this. Is it because of the resistance forces or the Vietnamese aggressors and their accomplices?

To make it easy to understand this issue, it is necessary to examine the implementation of the Paris agreement by the resistance forces—particularly the Democratic Kampuchean forces—and the Vietnamese aggressors, puppets, and some bad elements. The resistance forces, particularly the Democratic Kampuchean forces, have made efforts to correctly implement every clause of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, including a successive Democratic Kampuchean proposal calling on everyone to respect and implement the real essence of the agreement. More recently, Democratic Kampuchea put forward another proposal, a lowest level proposal, dated 27 June 1992, calling for:

1. The implementation of Article 3 of the Paris agreement which clearly says that the Supreme National Council [SNC] is the legitimate and the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period representing Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, and unity, and also Cambodia's representative abroad.

2. The SNC should jointly take part in controlling the withdrawal of all types of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia and controlling the dissolution of all four Cambodian parties' armies, 70 percent first and then 100 percent; and jointly prepare and organize free, democratic, fair, and just elections in a neutral political atmosphere without interference or pressure whatsoever from outside.

This means that there is no other government or state authority apart from the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the SNC. Reaction to the new two-point proposal is unanimous in saying that this is good, reasonable, and justified in line with the Paris agreement. It is realized that this proposal should be taken into account to find a way out of the impasse caused by the Vietnamese aggressors, puppets, and some bad elements who continue to maintain Vietnam in Cambodia and Vietnam's puppet regime as government to administer Cambodia.

Democratic Kampuchea has determined that only by resolving that the SNC has rights and power to cooperate with UNTAC in administering, making decisions, and taking part in supervision in accordance with the agreement can other problems be solved. This way these problems can certainly be solved quickly.

Over 12,000 Phnom Penh Troops in Cantonment Sites

BK1707133392 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1118 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 17—About 12,737 soldiers of the State of Cambodia have regrouped themselves in UN-supervised cantonment sites throughout the country between June 13 and July 13.

Phase Two of the Paris peace accords, which started since June 13, provides that all Cambodian factions' forces are to regroup, disarm, demobilize and put into cantonment sites.

Sources from Cambodian Defence Ministry said those regrouped soldiers belonged to infantry, marine, and air forces and they also handed over 9,687 weapons and 22 MiG-21 jet fighters to UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

Two other factions, KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] of Son Sann and FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] of Ranariddh, have also complied with the phase [words indistinct] their troops and laying down arms in their controlled areas.

According to an AFP report, 2,778 KPNLF troops surrendered to UN peacekeepers Wednesday in an hour-long ceremony presided over by UNTAC's chief Yasushi Akashi, and General John Sanderson.

The Paris peace accord calls for the government in Phnom Penh and the three guerrilla groups to disarm 70 per cent of of their armies and send the troops to cantonment sites under UN supervision.

However, the Khmer Rouge's faction failed to implement the peace accord by refusing to lay down their arms and give access to UN peacekeepers into its controlled zones. The faction raises preconditions which plunge the peace process into an impasse and continuously violates the ceasefire by launching attacks on government's positions in an attempt to expand its controlled areas.

Son Sann on Stalemated Situation

BK1807132192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council, by unidentified station correspondent in Phnom Penh on 10 July—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] I represent the Voice of the Khmer [VOK]. My respects to His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC]. First of all, I would like to thank you for this interview in Phnom Penh to deal with various topics concerning the general situation in Cambodia. This interview will be broadcast for the attention of our Buddhist monks and compatriots, listeners of VOK.

I have learned that the SNC held a meeting in Phnom Penh on 8 July in which you made an impressive address on your views concerning the stalemate of the implementation of Phase II of the Paris accord. Could you now account for your address?

[Son Sann] The 8 July meeting is of vital importance because first, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], despite scores of explanations and supplications, refuses to lay down its arms. It said it refuses because of the unresolved issue of the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia, and that it is impossible for the PDK to disarm since a countless number of Vietnamese are living in Cambodia. Second, the PDK said the SNC has not yet been empowered to work with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and that the Phnom Penh side continues to remain as an administration [as heard]. Mr. Khieu Samphan cited the two issues—there are also others—for his refusal to allow UNTAC to enter his region, to lay down arms, and to place his troops in cantonments. These issues are very important. So before the meeting concluded, I asked to be allowed to express my views on the Cambodian problem, which is very important for our nation.

I recalled the issue of the Vietnamese currently staying in Cambodia. I did not raise the issue of Vietnamese troops but Vietnamese forces, and what are Vietnamese forces? The Vietnamese forces are made up of Vietnamese soldiers—those soldiers are hiding in jungles, disguising themselves as civilians, and incorporated into the Phnom Penh army—and many millions of illegal Vietnamese settlers—at present those settlers continue to come; this is not yet the end. We have asked UNTAC to find out and ask those who are staying illegally in Cambodia against the Paris accord—signed by all parties concerned, including Vietnam—to leave Cambodia. This is very important for our nation's survival. I mentioned not only the issue of the Vietnamese presence but also the issue of elections. If elections are held, the Vietnamese can participate—some Vietnamese living in Cambodia hold Cambodian identity cards and are entitled to vote. On the contrary, if our fellow compatriots living in foreign countries, such as the United States, France, England, Canada, and Australia want to vote they should come to register in Cambodia. However, as those compatriots are living abroad and must work, look after their own families, and repay home loans, where can they get money to come and register in Cambodia? This issue continues to remain unsolved. In sum, the Vietnamese who invaded our Cambodia and came to the country illegally are eligible to vote, but the Cambodian compatriots who fled to foreign countries because of crises are not able to participate in elections. This is illogical and unjust. Therefore, I asked that the unjust action be scrapped. This is the second issue.

The third issue concerns the common border of Cambodia and Vietnam. It is generally known that Vietnam has moved its border deep inside Cambodia's land and maritime territories. This is absolutely unacceptable. I again demanded that the problem be settled with UNTAC and the United Nations prior to the holding of elections. This is my stance.

In addition, I told the 8 July SNC meeting that at present UNTAC, the United Nations, and friendly countries have brought an enormous sum of money—millions and millions of dollars—to Cambodia. At the Tokyo international conference, friendly countries that want to help rebuild our Cambodia already announced that they will provide $880 million. So where will the dollars be when they arrive in Cambodia? In view of this, I proposed setting up a technical commission to correctly manage and use foreign aid in the interest of the people and to prevent the aid from disappearing along the way. We also need to control the expenditure of the money to make sure that it will be spent appropriately for Cambodia's future interest. And those who wield power should be prevented from getting involved in the money management.

Now I have learned that the UNTAC head, H.E. Yasushi Akashi, plans to discuss financial and banking issues. I think this is a good idea. However, he is invited to make a thorough study of those issues by taking into consideration my suggestions; that is, the assistance should reach the populace—not disappear along the way—and the currency should be kept by an organization to be used in the future in our nation's interest.

I only recalled the two crucial issues of our nation. Anyway, one party refused to apply the UN peace accord signed by all of us, the four parties, and to lay down arms on 13 June. It has been more than one month so far; the implementation of the peace accord worked out by the five major countries has been stalemated, thereby hindering the process of settling the Cambodian problem and restoring durable peace to our people. If we achieve a lasting peace, our friendly countries, as they already announced in Tokyo, will bring in money to assist us in the reconstruction of our country in the interest of our people. I think the refusal is unjustified. If the implementation is still imperfect due to the Vietnamese having not yet completely left, we should continue to negotiate. I have already asked that the issue of a party refusing to lay down arms and the issue of the Vietnamese presence be resolved simultaneously—the issue of the Vietnamese should be scrutinized while arms are being laid down. This is to allow the implementation by all of us of the accord formulated by the five major countries to proceed in bringing about peace for our people. My opinion, my conviction is that we should reunite. If we do not reunite, we will, even after elections, clash again no matter what. If we fight each other again, who will be the victim then? I beg those parties to understand the need for national reunification and avoid blocking implementation of the five major countries' solution. At the Tokyo conference, it was announced that assistance will be provided for the reconstruction of our country after peace is restored. So we will have money and peace together. But if we hinder the peace process and if we continue to quarrel—the two parties continue to clash—the international community will be fed up, or the UN countries funding the operation in Cambodia, UNTAC, and H.E. Yasushi Akashi will run out of money. Then it will be our end. In the end, all of them will leave so who will be the loser? Of course, the Cambodian people will be the loser. As such, I think that for whatever logical reason, the party that refuses the implementation should in no way throttle the peace process, because the deadlock will cause our people to lose and affect the nation's benefit.

I also said that at present another party does not want national reunification [words indistinct]. I do not know exactly how many members of my party have been put in jail. And a great many of them—the number is now more than 100—who cannot live with their families in their home villages have fled to Phnom Penh. So if that party continues to act like this, how can national reunification be achieved? I beg it to give up such action and stop persecuting the people. What is the fault of the people? They are only wrong to join the [words indistinct]. The people should be equal and free to join any political party. If not, how will the future elections be free, general, and fair? As such, I wish to beg again and again that all the compatriots not do anything against the aspiration of the people, who want peace and happiness. We should strive to achieve national reunification. If we act against the desired national reunification, we are certainly at fault. So if a gentleman blocks the implementation while the other continues to harass, arrest, or kill the people, how can we reunite nationally? If the United Nations is not able to proceed due to our continued intransigence and conflict, the international community will stop helping us. As we have already known, crises are intense in Yugoslavia, Africa, and so on. And in addition, UNTAC has not yet had sufficient funds for its operation until elections are held. If we persist in so doing, the international community will cease assisting us and leave. Then we will continue to quarrel, to fight forever. So what are the adverse consequences? The victim is neither you nor me, but the entire Cambodian people; the people will die. As such, I wish to appeal to the four parties to reunite. Please listen to me. We should compromise and understand one another. We should not clash or kill each other. This is for the sake of our nation's reunification and peace.

[Correspondent] Thank you. While the implementation of the Paris accord is partly deadlocked, UNTAC's military and civilian personnel continue to be sent in one after the other. So in your opinion, will the UNTAC forces be able to restore peace to the Cambodians in the future?

[Son Sann] I am firmly confident of this, because UNTAC's mission is to promote the respect for human rights in Cambodia. This means that the people should not be subject to any kind of persecution and no action should be taken against human rights. I believe in UNTAC because, since its arrival, I have seen that it has ensured good order in Phnom Penh. We can place our hope in and rely on UNTAC. So I wish to inform the people across Cambodia that, despite the refusal by one party to implement the solution of the five major countries, the United Nations and UN Security Council will consider this issue and will prevent conflict, war from recurring. If we, the Cambodian parties, want to follow the accord we signed in Paris on 23 October last year, we should fulfill our duty correctly, then more UNTAC personnel will come.

In my opinion, in another month the number of the UNTAC staff members will be enough so they will be able to protect the people in all provinces and districts from being oppressed or prosecuted. As the compatriots living outside Phnom Penh and in the city's vicinity have already been aware, and as UNTAC has seen that the KPNLF party has mostly been victimized due to our protection of human rights, freedom, and democracy, it is currently working in close cooperation with us. As such, I wish to inform the compatriots that if you have any problem, please come to see us at our office in Phnom Penh—we will ask for permission to set up our offices in all the provinces and UNTAC will cooperate with us. So if the compatriots have any problem, please feel free to contact KPNLF representatives in the provinces. We will be pleased to help you. UNTAC has told us on many occasions that its primary task is to make those who are strong and powerful respect human rights, law, social order, and the people. As you know, the duty of the KPNLF is to protect, salvage, and serve the people. So in the future, if you have problems, please come forward; we are ready to serve and help you according to UNTAC's directive.

Before concluding, I request the Buddhist monks and compatriots to help explain to your friends and families that, for the sake of the nation's peace, we should achieve national reunification. We should not oppose but understand each other and make mutual concessions. Moreover, we should not persecute, kill, or arrest one another and make any further threat if we want our country to be in security and happiness and our people to live in peace. At present, most of our people are sick, our economy is still vulnerable, and the value of riel currency continues to be devalued—small-value bank notes are no longer accepted. That being the case, we should unite to rebuild our country. We should understand one another and closely unite to rebuild our economy with international aid worth many hundred million dollars with a view to restore peace to our compatriots. I wish to tell you that there is no other way except for national reunification. So I beg you to accept this. Those who do not want national reunification and continue to bully the people are absolutely wrong in the face of the nation.

Paper Hails Chea Sim Visit to DPRK, PRC

BK1907122192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 17 Jul 92

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Another New Substantial Result of the Neutral Policy Implemented by the Cambodian People's Party and State of Cambodia"; date not given]

[Text] The official friendship visit to the DPRK and PRC, made by a high-ranking Cambodian delegation led by His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, National Assembly, and National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, represents another substantial result of the neutral policy adopted by the CPP and the State of Cambodia [SOC].

In the DPRK, H.E. Marshal Kim Il-song, at a sumptuous and warm reception organized by the top Korean leadership, reaffirmed Korea's support for H.E. Chairman Chea Sim's initiatives and the promotion of the peace process in Cambodia. The high-level Cambodian party-state delegation's very first visit to the DPRK has opened up new development of the relations between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries.

In the PRC, the Cambodian delegation was wholeheartedly welcomed by H.E. Premier Li Peng and other Chinese leaders. The Chinese side has clearly proven its words, which promise that after a peace agreement for Cambodia is reached, China will treat all the Cambodian parties on an equal footing. Once again, the Chinese side explicitly reaffirmed China's support for the party which is implementing the accord and that it believed the SOC side is the vanguard in the implementation of the accord. As a country among the Big Five, China firmly maintained that it would do its utmost to promote the accord.

The newly-produced fruit is the result of the permanently neutral policy practiced by the CPP and SOC to expand relations with all countries without discriminating against their political and social regimes. It is also evidence of the genuine goodwill to live in peace of the CPP, the SOC, and the entire Cambodian people, who have steadfastly supported and followed the one and only Samdech Euv [prince father (Sihanouk)] with a view to again turning Cambodia into an oasis of peace and rebuilding the country toward prosperity.

We enthusiastically welcome the great success and the contribution made by the parties, governments, and peoples of the DPRK and PRC, in cooperation with the entire international community, to the promotion of peace and restoration of Cambodia.

Indonesia

Daily Comments on U.S. Envoy's Remarks

BK1907133992 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 9 Jul 92 p 4

[Editorial: "U.S. Ambassador John Monjo's Remarks and Our Investment and Export-Import Activities"]

[Text] U.S. Ambassador John C. Monjo, who will soon end his assignment to Indonesia, last week addressed an official forum on the investment climate in Indonesia. On the one hand, he said that the investment climate is already excellent. He is one of the U.S. ambassadors accredited to the ASEAN countries who toured seven major U.S. cities to promote investment in ASEAN.

On the other hand, John Monjo also spoke on the shortcomings of the investment climate in this country. First, he said, there is a shortage of managerial and skilled manpower as well as difficulties for foreign workers in obtaining work permits. Second, the nature of the state bureaucracy is complicated and overlapping. Third, local and foreign companies are treated differently, especially concerning equity ownership. Fourth, the legal system does not ensure fairness. Fifth, there is concern for the issue of intellectual property rights [three preceding words in English]. Sixth, monopolistic businesses and corrupt practices exist in Indonesia.

The U.S. ambassador's remarks have drawn mixed reactions. There are those who take a serious view of the remarks and call for the improvement of what John Monjo described as our shortcomings. There are also those who claim that U.S. investors are not as agile as their Japanese or Taiwanese counterparts in capitalizing on available opportunities. Others said that the allegations of corruption are groundless or that corruption does exist in Indonesia, but on a much smaller scale than in the United States.

The U.S. ambassador's remarks are not anything new, but we do not think we should dismiss them. It is possible that U.S. businesses have their own interests behind the envoy's remarks, but we believe such remarks were not caused by carelessness or a slip of the toungue.

We may as well interpret the envoy's remarks in the framework of U.S. business interests, and view them as veiled pressure by the world's only superpower against Indonesia, one of the world's developing countries. We know that the United States has recently launched its trade and investment offensive against several countries, including Japan and South Korea. We also have to withstand such offensives on the issue of U.S. films.

We believe that some of the shortcomings cited by the U.S. envoy have now been rectified by the 6 July 1992 economic deregulation package announced by the government last Monday. However, we also believe that Mr. Monjo's remarks should be used as a guideline to review our situation—namely in the framework of our economic relations, especially in trade and investment, with the United States and other countries.

While we must boost foreign investment and exports to many countries, especially to developed countries like Japan, the United States, and Western European countries, we must also import their products. In return, even though those countries should invest more in our country and open their markets to our exports, they naturally also want to boost their exports to us.

In this era of economic globalism, the interdependence of countries is becoming more and more obvious. But we must also accept the fact that developing countries, including Indonesia, are more dependent on developed countries than vice versa. Developing countries must also compete among themselves to gain access to the developed countries' markets and capital investment.

In the current global arrangement, there are several economic groupings, and developed countries' moves may actually harm our interests. There will be a European Single Market in early 1993. There will be a U.S.-Canada grouping which will also be joined by Mexico or perhaps Chile. There are also the former republics of the USSR and Eastern European countries.

There is a strong possibility that the European Single Market will increase its trade and investment among its own member countries, which will be followed by the addition of other Western European countries which are not member countries, the former republics of the USSR, and Eastern European countries. Meanwhile, the United States will boost its trade and investment in Canada and Mexico or perhaps Chile, which is considered one of the most promising Latin American countries. All of this will not benefit us because we must compete with other developing countries, whereas developed countries' priorities lie with the trade groupings in the European and American continents.

What about our relations with the United States? We export textiles, textile products, and timber products (especially plywood) to that country worth hundreds of millions of dollars. In our relations with the United States, we are in fact dealing with the world's only superpower that is trying to gain access to the markets of countries which are exporting a lot of commodity goods to that country.

We have already learned the lessons of the importing of U.S. films, but it will not be the last lesson for us. Using the pretext of the huge value of our textile and plywood exports to the United States, that country might as well demand that we open our market to U.S. goods. For example, it is possible that the United States may demand that we open our market for its automobiles. We may say that we have banned car imports, but how will we respond if the United States says that since Indonesia can export ready-made clothes to the United States, why can that country not be allowed to export fully-assembled cars to Indonesia?

That is not all. If Mexico joins the trade grouping, our textile exports will be severely affected, in view of Mexico's great potential in the textile industry. This scenario is mentioned by an Indonesian textile entrepreneur who just returned from the United States.

Also in the context of our relations with the United States, there is another factor concerning U.S. influence in the World Bank, which will from this year onward decide the amount of our overseas development aid.

What about our relations with Japan? We have always believed that Indonesian-Japanese ties are unique in the framework of Japan's global interests, to the extent that we will never have to worry about foreign aid, trade, and investment. But the issue is not a simple one. Japanese businessmen and economists have often raised the question of why Indonesia tries to attract new Japanese investment while some Indonesian businessmen invest their capital overseas.

This phenomenon can be attributed to Indonesian business conglomerates' efforts to buy the equity of other business, and Japan views this trend as the business owners' efforts to withdraw funds to be deposited overseas. This trend will certainly not help Indonesia's image and investment climate.

We want to stress once again that it is useful to look at Mr. Monjo's remarks, including those on monopolistic businesses and corruption, as a guideline to improve our economic system for the sake of our own interests in the future.

Alatas Holds Talks with Dutch Counterpart 16 Jul

BK1607135992 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] The Netherlands and Indonesia can still improve their ties without having to modify their stand on crucial issues, especially on human rights on which the two countries have different perceptions. Netherland Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek made these remarks to newsmen after talks with Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in Jakarta today. The Netherland minister said his country will not change its stand on crucial issues after Indonesia's decision to stop accepting Dutch economic aid. At the same time, the Netherlands does not want Indonesia to change its stand in connection with its policy to accept development aid programs from other countries.

Touching on the East Timor issue, van den Broek said the two countries will continue to hold close and open consultations on the issue. The consultations are nothing new for the two foreign ministers because they also discuss other international issues.

Joint Programs To Continue

BK1707143992 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Educational and cultural programs between Indonesia and the Netherlands will continue and a new formula for such programs will be jointly formulated in September this year. Education and Culture Minister Fuad Hassan said this after he met with Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek in Jakarta today. Fuad Hassan said there is no problem in resuming the bilateral cooperation, but a new formula is needed to fund it. The two countries have now started to discuss the basic principles of the formula. Fuad Hassan said details of the new formula will be discussed in his upcoming meeting with the Netherlands education minister in Jakarta in September.

Minister Welcomes Aid for Jakarta

BK1807133992 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Dutch Foreign Minister Van den Broek said the Netherlands welcomes the CGI's [Consultative Group on Indonesia] donor countries' financial aid for Indonesia amounting to U.S.$4.94 billion for the 1992-93 fiscal year. He said this after being received by President Suharto at Merdeka Palace in Jakarta this morning.

According to Van Den Broek, the Netherlands considers the financial aid for development projects of the CGI, which is led by the World Bank, as important.

He also expressed his desire to meet with Economics, Finance, Industry and Development Control Minister Radius Prawiro and National Development and Planning Board chief Saleh Afif who are currently in Paris.

While in Indonesia Mr. Van den Broek said he met with several ministers including President Suharto. He observed that Indonesia had an open attitude to improving bilateral cooperation.

Netherlands Help Urged

BK1707160192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Indonesia hopes the Netherlands will be able to influence the European single market so the trade grouping will not adopt more protectionist policies. Speaking after his meeting with Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans ven den Broek in Jakarta today, Junior Trade Minister Sudrajat Jiwandono said the Netherlands, which has a liberal trade policy, can help maintain the existence of trade relations unrestricted by trading blocs.

The minister also attaches great importance to the Netherlands' assistance because Indonesia still faces restrictions in its trade ties with the grouping, especially in the agricultural sector. Sudrajat also pointed out that economic ties between the two countries had not been affected by Indonesia's unilateral decision some time ago to stop accepting Netherlands development aid.

Suharto Urges Wise Use of Financial Aid

BK1807082692 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0712 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Text] Jakarta, July 18 (OANA/ANTARA)—President Suharto has appealed to the people to maintain the confidence given to Indonesia by countries and international institutions grouped in the Consultative Group on Indonesia (CGI) which has pledged 4.94 billion U.S. dollars in new aid on Friday.

"We have to use the aid for development projects effectively and efficiently," Finanance Minister J.B. Sumarlin told the press on Saturday after reporting to the president at the Merdeka presidential palace on the results of the CGI first session in Paris.

Sumarlin who was accompanied by Minister/State Secretary Murdiono during the meeting with the president said that the head of state appreciated the understanding on the part of the CGI members on the problems being faced by Indonesia in carrying out its development. Murdiono said meanwhile that the CGI aid commitments reflected the confidence of its members on the stability and development taking place in Indonesia.

Sumarlin said that of the 4.94 billion U.S. dollar commitment, 3.034 billion U.S. dollars are provided by international institutions, and the remaining by CGI member countries.

Indonesia will receive 1.055 billion U.S. dollars in fast-disbursing aid. Japan provides 500 million U.S. dollars, the world bank 300 million U.S. dollars, the Asian Development Bank 200 million U.S. dollars, the United States 25 million and the Nordic Investment Bank 30 million U.S. dollars.

Besides the 4.94 billion U.S. dollars, the Japanese Exim Bank also provides 500 million U.S. dollars, consisting of 300 million U.S. dollars in two step loans and 200 million U.S. dollars for financing infrastructural projects.

In reply to a question on the amount of loans requested by Indonesia, Minister Sumarlin said the World Bank recommended 4.8 billion U.S. dollars. Junior Minister for National Development Planning B.S. Mulyana on the occasion said that the aid will be used to finance development projects in the fields of agriculture, irrigation, mining, communication, education, health, housing, science and technology, natural resources and the environment.

Laos

Phoun Sipaseut Leaves for Manila Treaty Signing

BK2007072592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] His Excellency Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and a delegation left Vientiane for the Philippines by a special plane on the morning of 19 July. The purpose of his trip is to jointly sign, as a signatory state, the Southeast Asia Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, known as the Bali Treaty of 1976. The signing ceremony will be held in Manila, capital of the Philippines, on the occasion of the 25th ministerial meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The ASEAN meeting will be held from 21 to 22 July.

Phoun Sipaseut and the delegation were seen off at Wattai Airport by Saman Vi-gnaket, minister of education and sports, along with deputy ministers and high-ranking cadres of the Foreign Ministry. Also on hand to see the delegation off at the airport were Nguyen Xuan, Nikhom Tantemsap, Kasman Pahala Hanjahan Siahaan, and Abdul Wahab Harun, respectively ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos of the SRV, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

Anniversary of SRV Friendship Treaty Marked

Leaders Greet SRV Counterparts

BK1807051792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Congratulatory message from Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party—LPRP—Central Committee and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic—LPDR; Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly; Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR, to Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam—CPV—Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the SRV State Council; Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly—dated 17 July 1992]

[Text] On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the LPDR and the SRV, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the Lao people, and in our own names, we are very pleased to extend our warm salutations and best wishes to you, comrades, and through you to the CPV Central Committee, the SRV State Council, the SRV Council of Ministers, and the entire fraternal Vietnamese people.

The signing of the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation constituted the strengthening of the tradition of special friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam. The Lao party, government, and multiethnic people are very proud to see that over the past 15 years, the said treaty of friendship and cooperation has been effectively organized and implemented. Even though the two sides have encountered numerous difficulties and the international situation continues to change confusingly, our two parties and states have still firmly adhered together to the spirit of this treaty, thus allowing the tradition of friendship, special relations, and comprehensive cooperation between our two countries to be consolidated and strengthened with every passing day. This phenomenon has significantly contributed to the cause of building peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in this region and the world.

We pledge to continue doing our best to implement the content and spirit of the said treaty so as to further increase and make more prosperous and fruitful the tradition of special solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries, benefitting our Lao and Vietnamese peoples.

We would like to take this opportunity of historic significance to wish the fraternal Vietnamese party, army, and people great successes in implementing the resolutions adopted at the Seventh CPV Congress, taking ahead the cause of restructuring in a firm and efficient stride, thereby bringing a new step of development to Vietnam.

SRV Greetings to Lao Leaders

BK1907051092 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Congratulatory message from Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam—CPV—Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the SRV State Council; Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, to Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party—LPRP—Central Committee and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic—LPDR; Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly—SPA; and Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR—dated 17 July]

[Text] On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the SRV and the LPDR, we are very pleased to extend to you, comrades, and through you to the LPRP Central Committee, the SPA, the Government of the LPDR, and the entire Lao people, our warm salutations and best wishes.

The signing of the historic treaty marked a significant step for the promoting and expanding of the relations between our two countries. Through 15 years of implementation of the treaty of friendly relations and special solidarity, the comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and Laos has increased consistently and expanded incessantly in all fields, thus significantly contributing to our tasks of national construction and protection of the people.

We are confident that in line with the principles stated in the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Vietnam and Laos, as well as agreements reached by leaders of the two armies and the two countries during the official friendship visit to Vietnam by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of LPRP Central Committee and president of the LPDR, and the official visit to Laos by Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, the Vietnamese-Lao comprehensive cooperation has expanded significantly. This has greatly contributed to the new tasks of the peoples of Laos and Vietnam, for the development of the two countries, peace, stability, and cooperation in the region and the world over.

On this occasion, we sincerely wish to extend our deep gratitude to the LPRP, the SPA, the Government and the multiethnic people of Laos, and your great and valuable assistance to the tasks of us, the people of Vietnam.

We wish the fraternal multiethnic Lao people, under the direction of the LPRP headed by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, will implement the resolution of the Fifth Congress of the LPRP victoriously and successfully make Laos a country of peace, independence, democracy, unity, and prosperity. We wish you comrades to have good health and achieve ever greater success in all your tasks.

On the same occasion, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the LPDR, also received a congratulatory message from Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign minister of the SRV.

Foreign Minister Sends Greetings

BK1807042292 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Congratulatory message from Phoun Sipaseut, foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic—LPDR, to Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign minister of the SRV, in Hanoi—dated 17 July 1992]

[Text] On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the LPDR and the SRV, on behalf of the LPDR Government and the LPDR Foreign Ministry, I would like to extend my best wishes to the fraternal Vietnamese government and people, you, comrade, and all personnel of the SRV Foreign Ministry.

I am extremely happy to note that over the past 15 years under the said treaty of friendship and cooperation, the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between Laos and Vietnam have been increasingly broadened and borne more fruit with every passing day, corresponding to the aspirations of the peoples in the two countries, and benefitting peace, stability, and cooperation in this region and the world. I firmly believe that the fraternal Vietnamese people will attain great achievements in implementing the resolutions adopted at the Seventh CPV Congress.

May the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the Lao and Vietnamese peoples grow stronger and become more properous.

May you, comrade, have good health and attain successes in fulfilling all of your esteemed duties.

Editorial Views Treaty

BK1807063492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Jul 92

[PASASON 18 July editorial: "May the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship and Cooperation Last and Live Forever"]

[Text] To further enhance the tradition of special solidarity between Laos and Vietnam which were formerly colonized by foreign countries and whose peoples also suffered the same fate, rose up together to fight against the foreign oppressors, and won complete simultaneous victories together in 1975. Two years after the liberation, on 18 July 1977, the two countries officially signed the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in Vientiane. The signing of the treaty constituted an event of historic significance in Lao-Vietnamese relations. It marked a new step of development and became the basis for a new type of relationship between the two countries in the new period following the end of the national liberation war after which they turned to heal the wounds of war and to carry out national development to rehabilitate the living conditions of the people in each signatory country.

It is worthy of note to see that in the past 15 years the implementation of the said treaty by the two signatory countries has produced more fruit and generated a new quality in all fields. The two sides have unprecedentedly increased their mutual understanding and trust. They have reached unanimity in their independent strategies, policies, and plans. They have united with each other in smashing subversive schemes of all hostile forces, and in preserving their independence, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Such unity has become an important factor in strengthening mutual bilateral cooperation in various fields.

With the spirit of sharing every single grain of rice with our people, over the past 15 years, though faced with difficulties, Vietnam has shared part of its capital and resources with our country in the form of loans and gratis aid through many programs. It has helped Laos in training tens of thousands of leading and technical cadres throughout these years; building factories, schools, hospitals, markets, and bridges and roads; repairing roads; surveying natural resources; implementing agricultural, forestry, and irrigation projects; launching industrial and handicraft projects; exploring and mining gypsum; and setting up joint business ventures and management. Vietnam has also permitted Laos to use Danang and other sea ports, thus allowing us to have access to the international community via the sea. All this clearly shows the sincerity of the Vietnamese side in giving assistance to Laos.

The successful planting of border demarcation posts between Laos and Vietnam also constituted an event of historic significance in the relations between the two countries. It reflects the model policy of a country toward its neighbors.

The effective cooperation and the outstanding achievements made by the two countries in implementing the said treaty have not only served to strengthen the special solidarity existing between them but also to facilitate the socioeconomic construction in each country. The multiethnic Lao people are extremely delighted to see that the implementation of the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation is fruitful. On this occasion, we, the Lao people, would like to express our wholehearted thanks to the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, and people for rendering assistance to our cause. We would like to express our determination to coordinate with the fraternal Vietnamese people in struggling for independence, freedom, and prosperity.

To implement the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in the immediate future in conformity with the new situation on the basis of the spirit of the restructuring policy in each country, during President Kaysone Phomvihan's friendship visit to the SRV in October 1991—the visit which once again reaffirmed the strengthening of the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between Laos and Vietnam to have a new quality in accordance with the restructuring policy in each country—and during the friendship visit to Laos by Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, in February 1992, the leaders of the two countries stressed the need to consolidate the Lao-Vietnamese cooperation in the economic, social, scientific, technical, and other fields in the new period by placing an emphasis on quality and effectiveness. However, such cooperation must first of all conform to the capabilities of each country and, at the same time, be within the framework of independence, sovereignty, and equality on the basis of the spirit of friendship, fraternity, and comradeship. All this is to allow the implementation of the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation to last and live forever.

Article Reviews Past Relations

BK1907050292 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Jul 92

[PASASON 19 July article: "Cooperation Between Laos and Vietnam Is Gradually Developing"]

[Text] In the past 15 years, implementing the spirit and content of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Laos and Vietnam, though encountering numerous difficulties, but firmly adhering to the spirit of mutual assistance, the fraternal Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam have tried to create all necessary conditions for providing assistance and cooperation to the building of the foundations for the Lao revolution, thereby allowing it to firmly march forward in all fields. Such assistance and cooperation include cadre training, the dispatching in the trade, cultural, education, and public health fields. Many ministries, services, and provinces in the two countries have also developed sistership relations to give assistance to one another in many forms.

The Laos-Vietnam joint communique issued after the visit to the SRV by President Kaysone Phomvihan on 12 October 1991 said that in the recent past, the relations of friendship and solidarity between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam have been consolidated and strengthened. The form of cooperation between the two countries has also been gradually modified to increase efficiency in a practical sense in conformity with the capabilities of each country and on the basis of the principles of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, equality, mutual benefits, and comradely and fraternal assistance.

In the past 15 years, every aspect of the working and fighting life of the peoples in the two countries has always been illuminated with the beacon of solidarity which guides the building and defending of their respective country. The peoples of the two countries have also successfully fulfilled their esteemed internationalist duties.

The two countries have completed the delineation of the national border line and have turned it into a border of bilateral friendship and solidarity. This accomplishment has become a great example for resolving border problems between neighboring countries and for ensuring each other's

were about one thousand high-ranking officials, the embassy staff, and representatives of the Vietnamese Residents' Association.

In his ceremony opening speech, Mr. Phoun Sipaseuth talked about the significance of the event. He also conveyed the warm greetings of friendship, special solidarity of the Lao leadership in the party and government, as well as the people to the Vietnamese counterparts.

Mr. Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party CC [Central Committee], president of the Lao Front for National Construction, and president of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association, and Ambassador Nguyen Xuan took turn to address the gathering. The speakers hailed the traditional special solidarity between the two peoples which has been consolidated even more since the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation. They indicated achievements concretized in the past 15 years, thanks to the treaty which could be measured in terms of economic progress. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Editorial Views Committee on Relations With U.S.

HK2007064292 Quezon City MALAYA in English 20 Jul 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Reviewing RP (Republic of the Philippines) create an awkward, embarrassing and confusing situation, with the new man shut out from the discussion and formulation of policy recommendations that will occupy a large part of his turf. Because, even without the bases, relations with the Americans will continue to play a vital role in Philippine foreign affairs.

Perhaps some explanation for Romulo's exclusion will be forthcoming.

The cabinet committee will restudy such aspects of the relationship as trade, defense and security, culture and health. What will be closely watched is defense and security, especially by members of the Senate. They will want to know if the review Mr. Ramos has ordered will open the back door for a continued if diminished U.S. presence in the country, such as giving the Americans access to Cubi. The new president, it will be remembered, had floated this possibility not too long ago.

What will give impetus to the panel's work will be the visit to Manila this weekend of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. He is coming for the consultations between the ASEAN states and other nations that follow every ASEAN foreign ministers conference. The talks with Baker, who will huddle with President Ramos, will mark the first high-level exchange between the two countries since the bases treaty was struck down. Both sides should gain valuable insights as to how the other views the future course of their relations.

American resentment over the treaty's fate has been thinly disguised. It has been manifested in all kinds of reprisals, from the petty to the significant, such as the considerable cuts in various kinds of aid given to the Philippines. On the other hand, the Filipinos are just beginning to breathe and appreciate the heady air of self-respect and dignity that has come wafting in the wake of the termination of a master and client-state relationship. In good time an ideal equilibrium will be found, and it will all be for the best.

Investment Accord With PRC Signed 20 July

HK2007072092 Quezon City MALAYA in English 20 Jul 92 p 10

[Text] The Philippines will sign today an investment agreement with the People's Republic of China to protect mutual investments in the two countries. Trade Undersecretary Lilia R. Bautista said that the agreement was finalized after a series of meetings between Philippine government representatives and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade [Mofert] of PRC since January this year.

Aside from the protection of investments from the two countries, the agreement also calls for guarantees against appropriation as well as repatriation of profits, dividends, royalties and other legitimate forms of income. The investment agreement also provides for the facilitation in the issuance of visas for national of the two countries engaged in activities associated with investments.

The signing of the investment agreement signifies both government's strong desire to forge a closer bilateral economic relations by way of increasing investments between the two countries.

In 1991, PRC investments in the Philippines amounted to a measly P20 million [Philippine pesos] a hefty decline from their P237 million investments in 1990.

Trade Secretary Rizalino Navarro will sign on behalf of the Philippines while Vice Minister Wang Wengdon of Mofert will sign for PRC.

Wang will visit the country as a representative of PRC during the 25th Asean [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] Foreign Ministerial Meeting in Manila on July 21-22.

Meanwhile, Bautista said that the Asean Committee on Industry Minerals and Energy [COIME], a committee under the Asean economic ministers is holding its 25th and final meeting at the Manila Mandarin Hotel.

Bautista said that the meeting will last up to July 18.

COIME, which existed for the past 16 years since the first meeting was held in April 1976, was one of the five economic committees agreed to be dissolved by the 4th Asean Summit in Singapore.

Its functions will now be transferred to the Senior Economic Officials and the Asean Secretariat in Jakarta.

Bautista said the meeting will consider among others Thailand's new Asian Industrial Project on copper alloy production.

The meeting will also discuss new nominations for the Asean Industrial Joint Venture scheme and the new products under the Brand-to-Branch Complementation (BBC) scheme.

China, Others Urged To Reconcile on Spratlys

HK1907072292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Manila, July 19 (AFP)—The positions of China and other claimants to the Spratly Islands are not irreconcilable and ASEAN ministers meeting in Manila this week should achieve some progress on the dispute, Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Sunday.

"I think the Spratlys (issue) will be discussed," Manglapus told a news conference. "The Philippines feels that there should be some public mention on the part of ASEAN towards a solution."

Foreign ministers of Brunei, Malaysia and the Philippines—which along with Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand comprise the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—are to hold a two-day annual meeting here from Tuesday.

China and Vietnam, the two other claimants to the strategic South China Sea archipelago, are to attend the meeting as observers. Only Taiwan, the sixth claimant, will not be represented.

Asked if the Manila meeting would issue a declaration on the islands, which diplomats say could become one of Asia's flashpoints, Manglapus said: "We are seriously thinking about it."

Beijing, which has declared absolute sovereignty over the islands, has objected to a multinational conference on the Spratlys, preferring bilateral talks, but Manglapus said this did not necessarily pose problems.

"What we want to do right away is avoid violence and arrive at an understanding that will permit us to be there, work together, without having to bring in the question of jurisdiction and sovereignty," he said, referring to Manila's call for joint economic exploitation of the supposedly petroleum-rich area.

Manglapus cited informal discussions initiated by Indonesia, ASEAN's largest member, which is not a party to the dispute.

"The Philippines is hopeful that these guidelines will provide us with a start, a kind of a modus vivendi between the contesting nations," he said, citing the "very open mind on the part of the ASEAN countries towards an international solution."

"There could be a way of reconciling the Chinese position and what is taking shape in these workshops, because if we agree to set aside the question of sovereignty and a formula is arrived at, then there is no contradiction to the two positions," he added.

"We should not postpone any solution, but it takes time," he said.

ASEAN Meeting To 'Set Aside' Issue

HK2007015092 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Italicized passage in English]

[Text] The members of ASEAN will begin their five-day ministerial meeting tomorrow [21 July]. Among the topics to be discussed by foreign ministers tomorrow are regional security and economic development.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said the Spratly Islands issue will not be greatly discussed during the meeting. He said the ASEAN foreign ministers have agreed to set aside the issue in accordance with the so-called Indonesian solution. Under the plan [the Indonesian solution], claimants to the Spratly Islands will continue to conduct negotiations with regard to sovereignty over the islands, and at the same time conduct *joint cooperative undertakings or ventures* in the islands.

The Indonesian solution was reached by the countries vying for the Spratly Islands, including China, during an unofficial workshop headed by Indonesia.

Minister Urges ASEAN Help

HK2007080092 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 20 Jul 92 p 1

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] The Philippines is batting for some "public mention" of ASEAN efforts toward a solution of security issues, including the prevention of armed conflict in the Spratlys, in this week's foreign ministers' meeting.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said that while the meeting would in no way produce a "final solution" to the Spratlys, ASEAN foreign ministers yesterday expressed "a strong feeling (to work) towards a solution" based on "international understanding."

The Philippines proposal in effect wants a statement from ASEAN on the search for peace in the Spratlys, raising the possibility of an accord on "guidelines" on setting aside the question of sovereignty first to ensure that armed conflict does not break out in the meantime.

Briefing newsmen after the senior officials' meeting preparatory to the foreign ministers' meeting proper, Manglapus said: "We will try as much as possible to confront these issues (political and economic) squarely. We hope the meeting can produce helpful results in the direction of final solutions."

"What we would like to do is to take some steps forward" in some kind of arrangement that would avoid clashes and setting aside the question of sovereignty "for later discussion."

"The Philippines feels that there should be public mention on the part of ASEAN towards a solution. In what form it will take, I can't foretell." Manglapus said.

Manglapus will have a bilateral meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen today and talks could touch on the Spratlys, officials have said. Qian arrived from Brunei yesterday, the first foreign minister to come for the ASEAN meeting.

The six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has expressed concern over China's passage of a law claiming the Spratlys and allowing a U.S. firm to explore for oil.

Manglapus said the agenda of talks with Qian, a special meeting in the run-up to the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting, were "bilateral issues, economic and political."

While China has said it opposes the internationalization of the South China Sea dispute, Manglapus said this was not an insurmountable obstacle.

He quoted Chinese officials as saying Beijing did not object to joint economic activity in the Spratlys as long as sovereignty was left "untoched," a position that Manglapus said could be reconciled with the Philippines' proposal to first set aside the controversial issue.

He confirmed that the Spratlys dispute would indeed be taken up in the ASEAN meeting and security issues would likewise be tackled with dialogue partners—which include the United States and Japan—after the meeting among ASEAN ministers.

"It (solution) takes time. There are so many claimants, and we have to proceed diplomatically and in accordance with internationally accepted procedure," Manglapus said.

"We have to avoid the use of force. That is what we would like to avoid most of all," he added.

Manglapus said ASEAN ministers were very open toward an "international solution," beginning with an interim arrangement setting aside the issue of sovereignty in the Spratlys that could lead to a final solution in the future.

He also indicated that ASEAN ministers felt that the South China Seas dispute would eventually be discussed at the formal level. "I can't foretell when, but that is the way it is developing."

Manglapus presided over the senior officials' meeting as chairman of the 25th ASEAN Standing Committee, because the Philippines is host to this year's foreign ministers' meeting.

The ASEAN meeting is also expected to issue a statement in support of the peace process in Cambodia, although Prince Norodom Sihanouk has declined an ASEAN invitation to attend the Manila meeting.

Manglapus said Sihanouk cited pressing matters as his reason.

On other matters, Manglapus said ASEAN's dialogue with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III would provide a chance to discuss America's envisioned access in ASEAN countries.

"There is a possible laying on the table of the preferences of individual countries," Manglapus said, adding that the U.S. was already negotiating bilateral arrangements with ASEAN countries.

Paper Urges International Conference on Spratlys

HK2007082592 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 20 Jul 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Cooling Measures for a Potentially Hot Issue]

[Text] Nations, through history, have been known to behave rather irrationally when competing claims over territories holding significant natural resources are involved.

Competing territorial claims over the Spratly islands is one such issue. By their strategic location, the islands have long before become objects of heated claims. Now that oil has been discovered in the area, the claims are likely to be insisted more forcefully.

Several nations, including the Philippines, currently maintain military outposts in the Spratlys. Although the probability of a multi-sided armed confrontation among the competing claimants is still considered low, the possibility for such an event is not decreasing. The Spratlys are, in fact, considered the most significant flashpoint in the region.

Several years back, the armed units of China and Vietnam came to blows in the islands. Today, both countries maintain heavily fortified garrisons that daily peer tensely at each other. The tension has been increased by China's decision to enter into a joint venture with an American oil exploration outfit to drill on a shoal claimed by Vietnam.

Oil and geography are an explosive mix. In a region distinguished for a mini-arms race that is happening just when the rest of the world has begun to disarm, it is not prudent to allow the Spratlys issue to simmer without evolving a mechanism for international resolution of the dispute.

China, with the largest standing army in the world, has managed to keep her neighbors anxious over her regional designs. Vietnam, historically antagonistic towards its mammoth northern neighbor, maintains one of the largest armed forces in the world. The member nations of the ASEAN have, over the last few years, embarked on large weapons acquisitions in an effort to modernize their fighting capabilities.

In the face of declining domestic insurgencies, the Armed Forces of the Philippines has cited the possibility of armed confrontation over the Spratlys as one scenario justifying huge budgetary outlays for advanced jet fighters, expensive anti-aircraft missiles, and modern warships. For as long as conflict over the disputed islands remains a clear possibility, we shall be constrained to devote scarce resources to maintain a credible defense posture.

Secretary Raul Manglapus indicated, the other day, his intention to take the opportunity offered by this week's ASEAN ministerial summit meeting to test the idea of organizing an international conference on the Spratlys question. This is a promising and welcome initiative, although there is little indication as yet on how the other claimants shall respond to the proposal.

The idea of an international conference shall open the possibility of arriving at an international settlement of the dispute. Distant as the possibility of such a settlement might seen at this point, it is vastly more preferable to initiate a mechanism for international dialogue rather than allow a potentially explosive regional question to deteriorate.

The proposed international conference should, of course, involve all the competing claimants to the Spratlys. It might be necessary to involve all ASEAN member countries since this is a matter of regional concern. It has been suggested that the conference involve the United States and Japan as interested parties in the matter.

That aspect, along with the many other details such an international conference may involve, could be settled along the way. What is most important is to get the countries bordering the South China Sea to sit around a table, even informally, to begin a discussion on the disputed islands along the perspective of arriving at an international agreement.

There is much to gain and little to lose from an international conference on the Spratlys dispute. We hope the proposal takes off soon, before this part of the world becomes enmeshed in a cycle of mounting hostility and a frantic arms race.

Ramos on Inauguration of Visayas 'Malacanang'

HK2007091592 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0419 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Speech by President Fidel V. Ramos during inauguration of "Malacanang in the Visayas" held in the Visayas Hall of the Cebu Plaza Hotel, Cebu—live, in English; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Text] Although Pangasinan claims Eddie Ramos as a native son, I think I can honestly tell you that the Visayas owns my heart [applause] through the gentle, sweet, and *affectionate* ways of my Ilongga better half, Ning Martinez Ramos. And because of this, I have, during the last 37 years of captivity, developed in me this special bond for the Visayas and for Visayans.

Your support for me in the Visayas, especially here in Region 7, especially here in Cebu Province and Cebu City, which enabled me to win the most closely contested elections in the history of the presidency, has further strengthened that bond.

And so allow me now, on this occasion, to once more thank you most sincerely for your expression of confidence and trust that I can lead the nation.

My running mate, my partner in the last elections, is from this part of the country. And though unsuccessful in his own bid, former Governor Lito Osmena remains one of the best minds in our country today [applause], who can help us substantially in our economic program. This is the reason why I appointed him recently as chairman of a five-man council of economic advisers to the president, representing the private sector. Under his leadership of that council, there is no doubt that our country can learn from the phenomenal transformation of Cebu into a center of economic growth.

Had Lito Osmena not run for the vice presidency, he could probably still be leading your province towards greater economic development. But now we leave that to the newly elected officials of Cebu Province and of the region, under Governor De la Cuesta. *Let's give Governor De la Cuesta a big hand.* [applause]

With the job I have just given Lito, maybe we could turn Cebu's loss into the country's gain.

Fred Pelaez has just been appointed by me as the presidential assistant for the Visayas with the rank of under secretary. His main job is to serve as liaison between the president and the people and the leaders of the Visayas, thus providing an effective channel of communications as well as an effective channel for action to which the people of the Visayas shall have full access.

Like his counterpart in Davao and in Mindanao, I am now directing Fred or Mr. Presidential Assistant Pelaez to furnish me as soon as possible with a list of what can be done right away for the people of the Visayas. And I want him to draw up without delay an integrated master plan for the development of the Visayas that will respond to our people's needs and aspirations. Of course, in so doing, he should refer to the previous studies and master plans already developed for this part of the Philippines and at the same time he must make sure to consult and coordinate with the leaders, both elected and appointed, in this part of the country and also with our nongovernment organizations and people's organizations.

To set the tone of what this Malacanang field office should attend to, let me now announce to you the initial fulfillment of my other promise during the campaign, which is to be constantly concerned about the needs of the people in the Visayas. And so today, upon the advice of my presidential adviser on economic affairs Acting Executive Secretary Peter Garrucho, who himself comes from the Visayas—he's a native son of Pandan, Antique—let me say that we are going to fast-track the energy programs for the Visayas, so that sooner than you think you in this part of the Philippines, especially here in Cebu, will be relieved of the problem of brownouts and shortages in electric power capacity.

One of the major programs that we hope to attain, and this is already known to be a technical feasibility, is the interlinking of the various island groups in the Visayas to our major source of energy in this part of the Philippines, which is geothermal energy. And so the Cebu complex is going to be linked by submarine cable with the island of Negros, from which we draw geothermal from the Palimpinon Geothermal Field, and also with Leyte through the Camotes Island, which shall draw power from the Tongonan, Leyte geothermal community.

In addition to that, we shall be undertaking the rehabilitation and modernization of some of your antiquated power plants so that, as an emergency measure, you will have the electric power that you need.

Today, I am also releasing some P30 million [Philippine pesos] for the implementation of the remaining rehabilitation projects in the area devastated by Typhoon Uring. [applause]

In the field of health, in view of the outbreak of diarrhea in Panay Island, I am directing the secretary of public works and highways, plus the secretary of health....[Ramos changes thought] I am directing Secretary of the DPWH [Department of Public Works and Highways] to give priority to the construction of potable water systems in the affected water communities of that island. I am also directing Secretary De Jesus to fast-track the completion of all major ongoing road projects in the Visayas to strengthen inter-regional linkages. And among the major programs in this series is the implementation of the Cebu Grand Central Highway project. [applause]

On the industrial development of the western coast of Cebu, we have also something from your very own Sonny Garcia, secretary of transportation and communications, because I am also directing him now to complete as soon as possible the Mactan International Airport in collaboration with other departments of the government. [applause] A very important aspect of this is the setting up of the inter-modal transport system that will link Cebu to other strategic points in the Visayas in Leyte, Bohol, the island of Negros, and in Panay.

I am also tasking Secretary Garcia to provide an all-point access of the Visayas through a cellular telephone system [applause] and to complete, in collaboration with the city government of Cebu, the Metro Cebu Traffic Engineering and Management project that we have just launched.

My dear friends in the Visayas, there are some more goodies coming. [laughter] The Visayan region shall be the recipient of some P30 million in concession loans for agricultural projects from the Land Bank of the Philippines, as well as grants from the Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agrarian Reform shall be issuing emancipation patents and certificates of land ownership to some 323 farmer beneficiaries covering some 392 hectares in the provinces of Cebu, Bohol, and Negros Oriental. And for its part, the DENR [Department of Environment and Natural Resources] will soon be awarding 231 land patents, as well as stewardship contracts, covering some 210 hectares of public lands.

And finally, the Department of Trade and Industry [DTI] shall today release some P6.6 million for the establishment of credit cooperatives.

Now let us give these three departments a big round of applause: Agrarian reform, agriculture, and DENR, as well the DTI of course.

I would also like to announce, in addition to the appointment of Fred Pelaez, the appointment of Attorney Sompronio Ursal as commissioner of the Commission on Audit [COA] [applause] who was highly recommended by Chairman Domingo of COA for re-appointment to that very sensitive government organization.

And so my dear friends, what I have just announced here are really just tokens and symbols of our genuine concerns in setting up the foundations for lasting improvements in the quality of life of our people in the Visayas. These are just tokens, the best is yet to come. [applause]

But I now ask you, the people of the Visayas, especially of Cebu, which has achieved economic take off, I am asking you to help me. This is really the major purpose of my coming here today. To ask you once again for your support.

Cebu has been enjoying an unprecedented economic boom all these years. This is certainly due to fresh and daring management strategies of your local leaders. But this would not have succeeded without the support of a resolute and hard-working populace.

I would like to make this appeal to you because there were so many similarly situated citizens and communities in our country when you started on your economic recovery program. I also would like to urge the most affluent sectors of our society to take the initiative in helping to improve the quality of the lives of our poor so that they will not always be poor and so that they will not always be dependent on government.

This is the administrations rallying drive to our people and that is sharing, if you have it, and caring for everybody. Those who have had the advantage of economic growth should share your blessing with less fortunate among our fellow men. This may be through direct assistance, especially to those that are suffering from devastations brought by calamities. Of more lasting effect would be sharing your experience and your expertise and imparting your know- how with other communities throughout the Philippines, whose economies still have to take off. At the national level, this is really what Lito Osmena and the private sector, as well as our economic managers, have to do.

For my part, I am reaching out. I am also trying to attain the objective, which is among the highest aspirations of all people, of putting together the divided elements of this country so that we can all work as one to regain not only the vibrancy of our prostrate economy but also the dignity of our nation.

I have been reaching out to all political forces to join my efforts at building our nation. My larger party is now the Filipino people themselves and I welcome the support of anybody who will similarly put our people's interest above their own.

That is why, my dear friends, during the last couple of days as a referee in the contest for the speakership in the House of Representatives, I have hailed the coalition formed by Congressman Jose de Venecia of the LAKAS-NUCD [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] to bring together in the House of Representatives as many of our congressmen who are willing to serve the highest interest of the people's welfare which goes beyond party affiliations and party interests.

And I'll repeat this, because it seems that you are not reacting to what I've just said. [laughter] I say this because this all goes well to our collaborative relationship between the House of Representatives, the president, and the executive branch of government.

This is a clear signal from 146 out of 195 members of the House of Representatives who wish to cooperate among themselves for that higher objective that is beyond party affiliations—the national interest and the public welfare. This is really a genuine manifestation of what the people want. To get the leaders together and to get the country moving. This is the objective of our party. This is my objective. This should be everybody's objective.

And so, my dear friends, let me conclude by saying that the news of the times call for sacrifice from each and every one of us. I am not talking anymore about belt-tightening. But the time has come for us to sacrifice partisan political interests in favor of unity. To sacrifice extravagance in order to help our economic recovery. To sacrifice our propensities for violent methods for the sake of peace and harmony that we have for a long time longed for in our country. To sacrifice our hunger for power for the greater empowerment of our people, especially the poor Filipinos. To sacrifice pride and zealotry for each us to be able to uphold the rule of law.

And so, my dear friends, once more let me thank you. Let me thank all of Visayas for the support that you have given Eddie Ramos. Let me thank you in advance for the support that you shall hopefully give your president so that we can continue on with our momentum towards a better Philippines. Thank you very much and long live us all. [applause]

Thailand

Anan Denies Charges of Favoritism for Khmer Rouge

BK1707145792 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 17 JUL 92

[Text] General Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of the National Security Council, said the prime minister had stressed that Thailand wants all four Khmer factions to cooperate in accordance with the Paris peace agreement. The prime minister also said that accusations in the past that Thailand supported the Khmer Rouge with both weapons and logistics were untrue. Thailand only supports balanced progress achieved through the peace process. The prime minister also stressed that if anyone finds out that certain Thai soldiers or persons are found to be supporting the Khmer Rouge, please let him know. He will take drastic action to deal with the situation.

[Begin recording] [Charan] Thailand wants to see the cooperation of the four factions in the SNC [Supreme National Council] under the framework of the Paris agreement. However, there have been accusations that Thailand supports the Khmer Rouge. In this regard, the prime minister reaffirmed that there was no such support. He also asked [UN Transitional Authority on Cambodia chief] Yasushi Akashi that if there are reports about Thai soldiers or Thai people involved in supporting the Khmer Rouge, please let him know about them. He will take drastic action to deal with the problem. This confirms that Thai policy fully supports the UN, and does not support any particular party beyond the framework of the peace agreement. [end recording]

Anan, UNTAC's Akashi Discuss Cambodia Issue

BK1807021592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday told the chief of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Yasushi Akashi, that Thailand plays no part in the affairs of the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge has refused to cooperate in the crucial disarmament phase of the Paris peace accords. It has said it will disarm only if the Phnom Penh government is dismantled and UNTAC verifies the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

Speaking to reporters, Prime Minister Anan said he pointed out to Mr Akashi that non-involvement in Khmer Rouge affairs was the policy of the Thai government and the Thai military. He said as far as he knew the military observed this policy by not supporting the guerrillas. Mr Akashi did not ask Thailand to help obtain Khmer Rouge cooperation in the matter of disarmament, he said.

The three other Cambodian factions complied with Phase II of the ceasefire procedure activated in mid-June that calls for the regrouping of troops in new cantonments and the laying down of arms.

Separately, Mr Akashi said UNTAC would not at this point impose sanctions against the Khmer Rouge but would use negotiations to obtain the guerrillas' cooperation with the peace process. He said UNTAC was persisting with negotiated efforts, but he believed Thailand's help would make for faster results.

Mr Akashi was accompanied by UNTAC's military chief, Gen John Sanderson, when he paid the courtesy call on Prime Minister Anan.

National Security Council (NSC) secretary-general Gen Charan Kunlawanit, and Duo Phoramatwichai, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Southeast Asia department, were also at the meeting.

According to Gen Charan, the prime minister urged Mr Akashi to keep him informed should there be any reports of cooperation with the Khmer Rouge by the Thai military or civilians. Mr Akashi pointed to Khmer Rouge obstructions in his report to the prime minister on the peace process in Cambodia, Gen Charan said.

Prime Minister Anan stressed that Thailand wants all four Cambodian factions to cooperate in the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, according to the agreement reached in Paris last October, Gen Charan said. There was no discussion of sanctions or use of force in the settlement of the problem with the Khmer Rouge, he said. Mr Akashi expressed hope that the matter could be settled by negotiations.

The Prime Minister said Mr Akashi thanked Thailand for its work in support of the peace process in Cambodia. He commended in particular the de-mining and road repairs done by the Army's Engineering Corps.

Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin later spoke to reporters after meeting the UNTAC chief and said that Thailand will not stop trading with the communist faction to force it to disarm their weapons. There are no laws in Thailand preventing the private sector trading with the Khmer Rouge, he said. And businessmen have already made investments in Khmer Rouge-controlled areas.

If they have to pull out, nobody will repay their money. What the government could do is warn them to think in the long run.

"I have already told them to think about the long-term relationship between the two countries," the foreign minister said. It has been widely known that many Thai businessmen have invested in the logging trade and gem mining in Khmer Rouge-controlled areas.

Mr Asa pointed out that Thailand did not plan to close the Thai-Cambodian border because the frontier is too long to keep in check. Accordingly, it is very difficult to ban trade, and smuggling is likely to continue despite a closure.

"Sanctions will not be effective" he said, adding that whether Thailand will close the border is still "an open issue."

On the delay of the communist faction in laying down its arms, he said that the Khmer Rouge probably wants to raise its status to be level with Phnom Penh's rather than to dismantle the peace treaty.

Mr Akashi denied that he was seeking pressure from the Thai government on the Khmer Rouge. He said UNTAC needs the cooperation of all "friendly governments" to persuade the guerrillas to back the agreement.

"Pressure may not be the right word," he said.

The UNTAC leader also told reporters that the UN agency will not set a deadline for the Khmer Rouge to comply with the accord, but UNTAC has a tight schedule. So any self-interest is very counterproductive. According to the plan, the general election in Cambodia will be held in May next year.

He also rejected the Khmer Rouge's allegation on Thursday that the Phnom Penh government used UNTAC vehicles with UN symbols to transport its weapons, saying that the information is not true and is disturbing.

Foreign Minister Meets SRV Counterpart 19 Jul

BK1907143192 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, accompanied by a delegation, arrived this morning at Don Muang Airport for a visit to Thailand in order to hold discussions on bilateral relations. He was welcomed upon arrival by the director general of the Protocol Department. The Vietnamese delegation immediately held discussions with Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. The meeting lasted nearly three hours. After the meeting, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin told newsmen that the purpose of the visit was to have both sides discuss issues of bilateral concern, including fishing and Mekong development issues.

[Begin recording] [Asa, in progress] We discussed problems affecting our bilateral relations. Thailand raised the issue of fishing—we would like to prevent further conflicts in this area, since this issue could eventually affect bilateral relations. In this regard we agreed that talks will be conducted at an official level. We also discussed with Vietnam its previous proposal that our navymen and fishing authorities—or fishing associations—be included in discussion panels. We told Vietnam that Thailand would inform Vietnam when it should send officials for talks on this issue once Thailand is ready. Concerning the Mekong committee issue, there has not been any agreement so far. Officials of both sides will pursue discussions. Several other issues also remain to be settled; we exchanged views with Vietnam on these topics. Both sides agreed to make efforts to settle the problems as soon as possible. [end recording]

Official Says Aid to Lao Resistance Cut Off

BK1807015392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Jul 92 p A4

[Text] Thailand cut off all manner of assistance to anti-Pathet Lao ethnic resistance groups two years ago and has since tried to convince them to settle their differences with Vientiane, according to a senior Thai army official.

The official, who requested anonymity, said that Thailand's decision was made a few years earlier, during the tenure of Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut as army commander in chief, and that Thailand had completely severed ties with the resistance groups in 1990.

The Thai authorities informed three Hmong resistance groups of their decision verbally and by letter, he said, adding that the assistance to the resistance groups had been scaled down until it was completely severed after the brief war between Thailand and Laos over the disputed Ban Rom Klao, opposite Laos' Sayaboury province.

The officer, who was assigned to oversee the ethnic resistance movement, identified the three groups as those under the leadership of Gen Vang Pao, Li Lau and Pa Kou Heu. Although Vang Pao's followers remain active along the Thai-Lao border at Loei Province, Li Lau and Pa Kou Heu have received little assistance or support from their Hmong compatriots, who have resettled mainly in the United States.

The anti-government activities of the latter two groups have subsided over the past two years, and most of their members, though still armed with light weaponry, have already moved from Phitsanulok and Nan provinces to live in the rugged terrain of Laos' Sayaboury province, according to the official. He added that small skirmishes still occur on a daily basis between the estimated 2,000 members of the Pa Kou Heu group and Laotian government forces stationed in Na Waeng district of Sayaboury.

Gen Vang Pao commands some 1,000 armed followers while Li Lau oversees about 3,000 members, said the officer. Vientiane said there are at least 8,000 Hmong resistance fighters based inside Thailand. The official said Thailand's decision to terminate assistance was the outcome of a new policy adopted by former prime minister Gen Chatchai Chunhawan seeking closer ties with neighbouring countries and because of rapid changes in the regional political environment.

Lt Gen Phairot Chan-urai, commander of the Third Region Army, has been responsible for the full implementation of the decision and seen to it that no military supplies or assistance were transported to the resistance groups, according to the official. In admitting that the Thai Army had previously aided the resistance groups, comprising mainly highland Hmong groups, in the late 1970s, he also said they had been allowed to recruit followers in Laotian refugee camps.

"It's pointless to continue the fighting now. We don't want to see any more proxy wars, which were imposed on us by superpowers.... We told them (the three groups) that we would scale down our assistance and would finally stop it and we did," he said.

Thailand has often shrugged off calls by Laos to stop providing military support to the dissident Hmongs, saying that it never provided sanctuary or assistance to the anti-government movement.

Ethnic Hmong tribesmen were recruited and trained by the US Central Intelligence Agency in the 1960s to fight communism in Laos before the communist takeover in December 1975. Gen Vang Pao afterwards fled to the United States and still commands his followers from there in the conducting of sabotage in remote mountainous areas in the landlocked nation.

In addition to Thailand, the United States and another Asian communist giant have also stopped their assistance to the resistance groups, said the official. The communist nation had trained and provided small arms to the groups in the late 1970s to counter the Vietnamese presence in the Indochinese state, he said.

Thailand, said the officer, has tried to persuade Vientiane to accept the Hmong returnees, but the response has always been questionable, he said, with Laos often replying that it would "consider" any request.

Reaction to Kaset Coup Statement Viewed

BK1707143792

[Editorial report] Three-Thai language newspapers—NAEO NA, MATICHON, and SIAM RAT—carry editorials on 17 July commenting on the move by the Confederation for Democracy [CFD] to protest Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Kaset Rotchananin's recent statement threatening a coup if "lousy" parties come to power after the September elections.

NAEO NA's 400-word editorial on page 4, titled: "Tit for Tat," notes that various politically active groups in the country often tend to behave provocatively. It notes the demand by the CFD for Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's government to remove the top-ranking military officers responsible for the massacres during the 17-20 May unrest. The CFD, frustrated by the slow pace of the probe, has threatened to call for protest rallies similar to those in May to press for removal of the military top brass.

The editorial says the CFD's demands have prompted the supreme commander to justify the military action during the incident. However, the supreme commander's statement on the possibility of a coup by the military in the future "is like a fire bomb that has exploded in the hearts of the people."

The paper continues: "The reaction from the CFD and some groups of politicians against the supreme commander's coup statement is rather aggressive and provocative, which could lead to a tit-for-tat confrontation. Such a scenario will lead the country to a disastrous end. Both the CFD and military should realize that it is not their duty to judge who is right and who is wrong. Let the fact-finding committees appointed by the government and the Defense Ministry do their work and find the guilty party."

MATICHON's 500-word editorial on page 8, titled: "Democracy," says Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin's coup statement has brought strong criticism and protests from people from all walks of life, such as politicians and pro-democracy activists. Even Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and Deputy Prime Minister Kasem Suwannakun expressed regret over the supreme commander's statement.

The editorial says the supreme commander's views reflect the conflict between two opposing sides in Thai politics. One side consists of some senior military officers who are ambitious for power and are willing to obtain it through shortcuts, such as staging coups, because they have seen historical examples of successful coups, such as those by Field Marshal P. Phibunsongkhram, Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat, or even the one by the National Peace-Keeping Council, without realizing the impact of coups. The other side consists of the pro-democracy groups, which have no trust in the military commanders because of the past.

The editorial continues: The move by the CFD is not considered a violation of its agreement with Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun. The prime minister should therefore try to see what has happened to democracy. "In particular, he should try to accelerate the removal of senior military officers involved in the May events by the end of his government's term of office so the next government set up after the general election can function smoothly without any pressure on this issue."

In conclusion, the editorial says "the CFD and other pro-democracy groups, such as the students, businessmen, and people, should continue their activities and react promptly to any situation dangerous to the development of democracy, which could come about not only because of the soldiers but also because of lousy politicians. In particular, they should help prevent corruption, which is a factor that subverts democracy, and help prevent the vicious cycle from returning to democracy."

SIAM RAT's 500-word editorial on page 3, titled: "Hold It, Confederation for Democracy," says several newspapers have reported that the CFD—which played a major role in protesting against the premiership of General Suchinda Khraprayun and finally turning the protests into riots, resulting in the deaths and disappearances of scores of people—will move again to protest the supreme commander's coup statement. The CFD's protest may turn into another rally and demonstration because the CFD is skillful in this regard and clearly has the ability to organize such rallies and demonstrations.

The editorial says it will not repeat what ACM Kaset has said about coups, but it expresses opposition to the organizing of rallies or demonstrations against the supreme commander. The editorial also says it sympathizes with the CFD, which is alert to opposing anything dangerous to democracy. However, people are also afraid of another rally or demonstration because the people have seen the effectiveness of the CFD in holding them. The results of their activities have brought about an adverse rather than positive impact, such as the impact on politics and the economy.

The editorial notes that "if the CFD protests by organizing a rally, other people may also rally and demonstrate, too. And such rallies may be in opposition to the CFD. We do not want to see such a scenario." It continues: "We do not oppose all protest or opposition to ACM Kaset Rotchananin's coup statement. We support protests and opposition to such a statement. But we see that there are other means of protest. It is not necessary to use people's power to organize rallies or demonstrations."

Thoet Thai Party Merges With Chat Thai

BK2007010592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jul 92 p 1

[Text] The Thoet Thai Party, to prevent its former MPs defecting to Chat Phatthana, has merged with the Chat Thai Party.

A third party, named by a source as Social Action, may also join Chat Thai in the next days.

Thoet Thai leader Dr Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri, during the merger announcement yesterday, did not rule out the possibility of the third party merging with Chat Thai if negotiations can be settled.

He declined to elaborate or name the party.

An informed source said SAP [Social Action Party] leader Montri Phongphanit agreed with a proposal to merge with Chat Thai but a number of his MPs, including former Si Saket MP Piyanat Watcharophon, opposed the move.

The surprise merger of Thoet Thai and Chat Thai is aimed at bolstering Chat Thai's chances of winning at least 80 seats in the general election.

"This is a counter-measure which we hope can prevent former MPs from leaving our party," said a senior Thoet Thai Party member.

"This will give them a political assurance that we will be the main core of the next coalition government."

The link-up follows a week of efforts by members of both parties and was announced by Chat Thai and Thoet Thai leaders at a press conference at the Central Plaza Hotel yesterday.

Chat Thai deputy leader Sano Thianthong predicts the merger will see his party win most seats—at least 80—in the election.

A meeting yesterday morning at Chat Thai leader Pol Gen Praman Adireksan's house drew top party members from both parties, including Chat Thai deputy leaders Mr Sano, Watthana Atsawahem, Thawit Klinprathum and Thoet Thai leader Dr Anuwat, secretary- general Somphong Amonwiwat and Samphan Lertnuwat, who played a key role in the merger.

The source said Thoet Thai advisory chairman Narong Wongwan will be appointed Chat Thai advisory chairman while Dr Anuwat will become its deputy leader.

Mr Somphong, a former Chiang Mai MP, conceded that Thoet Thai could not stand idly by if its former MPs were recruited by other parties.

"In politics, one has to learn to be flexible. The party could gain 20 to 30 seats in the election but this could prevent us from administering the country. We want to be a coalition partner to solve national problems," Mr Somphong said.

Pol Gen Praman said the merger will strengthen the party system and improve the image of the two parties.

"This merger is not aimed at threatening anyone but is for the sake of the national interest," Pol Gen Praman told the conference attended by a total of about 40 former MPs from both parties.

Pol Gen Praman said he is ready to be premier if the party comes first in the election, but this also depends on destiny.

Chat Thai secretary-general Banhan Sinlapa-acha and Mr Narong were absent during the conference.

Mr Banhan was in Khon Kaen while Mr Narong was in Australia where he was reportedly a guest of the Australian government to see and buy cattle.

"Mr Narong has already been told of the latest development which he helped supervise. He left for Australia last night (Saturday)," said former MP for Chiang Mai Sayom Ramasut.

Pol Gen Praman said a new party executive committee will be elected after the general election and the party on Friday will call its first meeting since the merger at Thoet Thai headquarters which will be the new office of Chat Thai.

Dr Anuwat, a veteran politician from Buri Ram, yesteday read a political communique which said the merger will help develop the party system in the country.

The party will be the only one with representatives from all regions.

Pol Gen Praman said 13 former Chat Thai MPs have officially resigned from the party while Dr Anuwat said about 30 former Thoet Thai MPs have defected.

However, both men are confident the merger will improve the situation and many former MPs might return to the fold.

Politicians Talk of 'Frantic' Buying of Candidates

BK1907040292 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jul 92 p A1

[Text] Leading politicians have conceded that parties are engaging in a frantic round of horsetrading in a bid to recruit as many candidates as possible before the Interior Ministry begins candidate registration for the Sept 13 general election later this month.

The politicians interviewed by The Nation said parties divided would-be candidates into three categories according to their chances of winning, with varying levels of financial incentives to match.

They pointed out that the incentives, in the form of cash and ranging from Bt [Thai baht] 1 million to Bt7 million a head, partly explained the flurry of defections by large groups of former MPs.

"We are facing unprecedented impudence on a grand scale. Political parties are buying would-be candidates by the dozen. A certain party is prepared to spend up to Bt900 million, while another has Bt700 million at its disposal," Democrat deputy leader Banyat Banthadtan said. He would not name names.

Some newly-formed political parties vying to win sufficient seats in the House to form the core of the next coalition government, expected to be set up after the election, are succumbing to the easier path of recruiting successful former MPs as candidates rather than grooming party members.

One source, a former MP of the Samakkhi Tham Party, said the party's candidates received Bt1 million, Bt3 million and Bt5 million in the general election in March this year for electioneering.

According to the source, the would be candidates could be divided into three categories:

Grade A—former Cabinet ministers or those who won a seat in the House of Representatives for two consecutive terms—were offered Bt5 million;

Grade B—successful candidates in the previous election, or well- known personalities who stood a good chance of being elected—were offered Bt3 million; and

Grade C—former candidates who gained substantial votes in the previous election but were unsuccessful—were offered Bt1 million.

But other former MPs interviewed by The Nation denied that they had received the full amount of money promised them by their parties.

New Party Gets Strong Financial Support

BK1807015992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jul 92 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Chat Phatthana Party [CPP] is preparing to spend at least 500 million baht on its election campaign, a senior party source said yesterday. The source said the CPP, with its strong financial support and lineup of candidates (mostly veteran politicians who defected from other parties) is confident that it can win as many as 80 seats.

CPP leader Gen Chatchai Chunhawan told reporters that the latest politician to join its ranks is Samakkhi Tham [STP] deputy leader Pramuan Saphawasu. He had previously announced his intention to join the New Aspiration Party.

The CPP is prepared to make available at least 500 million baht to support its candidates' campaign, the source said.

"The news reports that (the CPP) is offering three million, five million and seven million (to its candidates) is a standard formula also offered by other parties. I can only say that five million baht is an average price for former MPs," the source said.

The CPP has yet to work on the details of the financial aspects of the election but it is understood that the main source of funds will be businessmen, merchants and some industrialists. Although 500 million baht is a large sum of money it is not comparable with the mammoth profits investors usually make from their projects, the source said.

The CPP is confident that it will obtain the largest number of seats in the Lower House after the election because more than 100 former MPs have now joined the party. The party expects to win as many as 45 seats in the Northeast, about 10 each in the Central Region, the East, and the North, and two-to-three seats in the South.

The source admitted that the CPP now has an image of being the "Samakkhi Tham Party II " having taken in many members of the STP.

This is why Gen Chatchai decided to accept deputy Democrat Party leader Prachuap Chaiyasan and some members of the New Aspiration Party, so as to erase the CPP's image as one of the so-called "satanic parties." As a result, the CPP can now be considered a "neutral party" because it has taken on a mixture of politicians from all camps, the source said. He said that though the CPP does not receive financial support from the military, that does not mean the military would regard the CPP as an enemy.

"The military's enemy is not Gen Chatchai and Gen (Athit) Kamlang-ek," the source said.

If the military is to be against any person, that person should rather be NAP Leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut, or Democrat Leader Chuan Likphai, or Phalang Tham Party Leader Chamlong Simuang, the source said.

"Morally, the military may help us by not trying to prevent Gen Chatchai and Gen Athit from standing in the election," the source said.

Meanwhile, reliable party sources confirmed that talks are underway between the CPP and several groups of politicians from other parties which want to join. Among them are the STP group led by deputy leader Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri and the Seri Tham group led by former House Speaker Athit Urairat. Seri Tham group member Phinit Charusombat, confirming that there have been talks, told reporters he expects to know by Monday what the group will do about its future.

The group has sought to register as a political party in order to stand in the election and still hopes the move will be approved by the Interior Ministry in time for the candidate registration period. The group will have to join other parties in the next poll if the move fails to materialise, he said. He said the group leader, Dr Athit, may not contest the poll if the group opts for the second option.

Gen Chatchai yesterday denied that the CPP is wooing Mr Anuwat and that it is negotiating with the Seri Tham group for a merger. So far only former Kalasin MP Aphichat (Halamchiak) of the Seri Tham group has contacted the CPP, he said.

While denying that the CPP intends to spearhead the formation of the next government, Gen Chatchai revealed he has formed a new economic advisory team to assist the party in its national economic affairs. While declining to elaborate on the lineup of the team, he emphasised that he will not bring back his young economic advisory team, better known as the "Ban Phitsanulok advisers", if he returns to power. The new advisory team will comprise economic experts, businessmen and academics whose line of thinking is more appropriate to the present situation, he said.

Vietnam

Le Mai Receives Visiting U.S. MIA Official

BK1707150292 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 17 Jul 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 17—Ms. Francis Zwenig, head of the Office of the Special US Senate Committee on Investigating Missing Servicemen, paid a visit to Vietnam from July 13-16. She was accompanied by Brigadier General Thomas Needham, joint task force-full accounting commander. They were received by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai. They had working sessions with the Vietnamese MIA office and took part in investigating news of so-called 'live sighting' of Americans but the findings showed that the news is groundless.

Ms. Francis Zwenig highly appreciated the Vietnamese Government and people's cooperation in settling the MIA issue. She left here yesterday for Laos.

Do Muoi Says PRC's Li Peng Invited for Talks

BK1907054092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0535 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Hanoi, July 19 (AFP)—Vietnam has invited Chinese Premier Li Peng to come to Hanoi to discuss disputes still plaguing their bilateral relations, Vietnamese Communist Party Chief Do Muoi said Sunday.

Li could visit Vietnam late this year after China's 14th Communist Party Congress, the general secretary said.

"Preparations are being made through diplomatic channels by both sides," Muoi said. "The sooner he comes, the better."

Sino-Vietnamese relations have grown tense since Beijing in May leased an oil concession between the disputed Spratly Isalnds and Vietnam's southern coast to a U.S. company, ignoring Vietnam's claims that the block intruded on its continental shelf.

The aggravated dispute in the South China Sea adds to longstanding differences over the Sino-Vietnamese land borders and the situation of more than 200,000 ethnic Chinese who fled Vietnam in the late 1970s when the two countries moved towards war.

Muoi said he agreed with Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin when they met to normalize relations in November that all disputes would be settled through peaceful negotiations.

"China-Vietnam relations are developing in a fine way ... though there are still some problems," he told journalists after voting in Vietnam's legislative elections.

"We shall continue to try to find a peaceful solution in the interest of the two countries, the people of Southeast Asia, and peace and stability in the world."

Nguyen Manh Cam Leaves for ASEAN Meeting

BK1907073692 Hanoi VNA in English 0533 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 19 - Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam left here today for Manila to attend the 25th annual ministerial conference of ASEAN countries scheduled for July 21-22, during which he will, on behalf of the Vietnamese Government, formally sign the Amity and Cooperation Treaty in Southeast Asia.

The Vietnamese foreign minister will make a working stop-over in Bangkok July 19-20 as guest of his Thai counterpart, Mr. Asa Sarasin.

Joint Cambodia Border Issue Viewed

BK1807093792 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Jun 92 pp 7-9

[Article by Minh Hien: "Persistently Build the Vietnam-Cambodia Border Into a Region of Peace and Friendship"]

[Text] Generally speaking, over the past many years, including the period since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia, the situation along the Vietnam-Cambodia border has remained relatively stable, especially following the signing of a border agreement between the two countries on 27 December 1985. Recently, the Paris agreement on Cambodia was signed and steps have been taken to ensure its implementation. As a result, the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue will witness new developments.

Vietnam is one of Cambodia's neighbors and also a signatory to the Paris agreement on Cambodia. It is our policy to respect that agreement. It is also our desire to see that the implementation of that agreement respects Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, neutrality, and non-alignment; the UN Charter; and the sovereignty of Cambodia's neighboring countries, including Vietnam.

Our party and state's unswerving policy is to continue to maintain and strengthen our friendship and good neighborliness with Cambodia on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, and mutual benefit as well as of persistent efforts to build the Vietnam-Cambodia border into a region of peace and friendship.

The profound feelings that bind the three Indochinese peoples together in general and the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples in particular are "deeper than the waters of the Red River and Mekong River." Their mutual support and assistance during the wars of resistance against foreign aggression are clear testimonies of this. For many years, the peoples and administrations on both sides of the Vietnam-Cambodia border have constantly maintained close relations and have effectively assisted each other in many domains. Those very close relations have greatly contributed to foiling many dark schemes initiated by bad elements and to firmly maintaining political stability and public security and order in the border area. More than ever before, measures must be taken to maintain and develop mutual solidarity, cooperation, and friendship to meet the two peoples' aspirations. It is necessary for all party committee echelons, administrative bodies, and mass organizations to make our cadres and people fully realize the importance of this issue. In addition, more propaganda activities are needed to help overseas Vietnamese in Cambodia and Cambodian nationals and Khmer compatriots in Vietnam firmly grasp that spirit and heighten their vigilance against the various information and propaganda maneuvers designed by bad elements and hostile forces to instigate and sow disunity between the two peoples.

Regarding the economic ties between our country and Cambodia, continued efforts are needed to expand import-export operations and economic cooperation or mutual interests, bearing in mind the need for close management as stipulated by state law.

Localities in our country and in Cambodia should coordinate to reexamine bilateral agreements and contracts. We should continue to do mutually beneficial things and try to ensure that they are carried out in compliance with the law. As for things that are no longer suitable, we should examine them to see if they need readjustment or if their operations need to be suspended. We should end the indiscriminate contact-making and hands-off management. We should develop low level trade ties among the peoples living on both sides of the border for their welfare and our economic interest. We should exercise strict control in accordance with the law and other border regulations.

Given the new situation, the enemy will intensify their sabotage activities against our economy. They will resort to many perfidious schemes such as inciting and creating conditions for illegal trading, setting up open markets near the border and so forth, drawing laborers away from production to trading, while causing market upheavals and instability at the border. Sectors and localities should learn from our antismuggling experience and come up with uniform policies and economic, administrative, judicial, organizational, and management measures to effectively curb the cross-border smuggling.

No less important in building the border into one of friendship is this. We should continue to build politically stable and defensively secure disticts and villages along the border with improved economies and a cultural life.

With the experiences and achievements of the past few years in building stable district and provincial defensive zones, every locality and every establishment should readjust and revise their plans to suit the new situation. Most importantly, we should create a stable political infrastructure and build an area free from unwanted influences and people. Every locality should examine and evaluate their own situation and reorganize and consolidate grass- roots party organizations, the administration, mass organizations, border defense public security forces and self-defense militia forces in various border districts and villages. This is to enable them to be turned into solid support sectors for the all-people movement to build and defend the border. We should rely on the people to understand the local situation, discover and promptly avert attempts by miscreants—who are residents or infiltrators from across the border—from creating disturbances and sabotaging border security. We should not tolerate illegal residence at the border, especially those with questionable political affiliations, criminals, and those with unknown backgrounds.

Many border localities have paid attention to this issue. There are many models of stable villages and hamlets in general which are free from unwanted influences and people, in particular. Some of them are Tan Lap village (of Tan Bien District, Tay Ninh Province), Tan Hoi village (of Hong Nguc District, Dong Thap Province), Xuan To village (of Tinh Bien District, An Giang Province). These establishments teach us an interesting lesson. That is, we should adopt rational measures, create favorable conditions for people to earn a living, and improve their material and spiritual life—for instance, develop roads and farm irrigation systems, electric networks, and schooling, etc., These measures would keep them from moving from their new resettlement centers, discourage people from switching from production to trading and maintain high population densities. It is, of course, impossible for border district and villages to tackle everything single-handedly. They will need the assistance of other localities and higher echelons. In many provinces such as Tay Ninh, Long An, and An Giang, we have been able to initiate a movement among districts and villages in the rear to provide aid border districts and villages. This has helped make the building of stable border districts and villages more effective.

We should also further strengthen and renovate our border control in a way that would guarantee abidence to the law and to show the goodwill, peace and friendship of our state and people.

Our state has taken the initiative in building a maintenance system for our side of the border. This system respects the border law, while showing our goodwill for solidarity and friendship. Localities and our people should voluntarily comply with and scrupulously implement all the stipulations of this system. We should rectify and intensify our control at various border entry and exit points. This would include our procedures on granting entry and exit visas, and doing away with the long-existing disorderliness of uncontrolled cross-border travel. We should try to avoid inconveniencing travelers living on both sides of the border.

We should protect our national boundary in accordance with the established demarcation line. In areas where the border have not been demarcated and planted with markers, we should maintain the status-quo of our border defense system. Led by party committee echelons, forces engaged in the administration and defense of the border should closely and regularly cooperate. They should depend on the people and relevant establishments to achieve uniformity, flexibility, and the effectiveness. We should seek to understand the border terrain and use the coordinates of the original map previously agreed upon by the two countries in border control. While carrying out border patrol and control, we should maintain a regular control system with on-the-spot inspections if we are to understand the situation more accurately. We should resolutely deal with the provocations of hostile forces as well as their border intrusions and attempts to move border markers in their favor, etc. At the same time, we should educate the people and our organizations to not trespass the border for farming and resettling purposes, for fishery or timber exploitation, and the like.

We should solve disputes reasonably and sensibly by means of persuasion and negotiations between the peoples and the administration of both sides, and avoid conflicts and clashes. We should be cautious and should carefully weigh the pros and cons of every incident. We should also try to find out whether the incident is part of an enemy scheme or just an accident, so that it can be properly dealt with. We should try to avoid making mistakes as the enemy may capitalize on it and distort our activities and level false charges at us, thus causing division and instability.

Radio on Citizens' Duty to Vote in Elections

BK1907085792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Jul 92

[Article by Voice of Vietnam: "Let Vietnamese Citizens Exercise Their Lofty Right and Duty"]

[Text] In less than an hour from now, millions of voters throughout our country will go to the polls to exercise their rights and duties as citizens by selecting the right deputies to the Ninth National Assembly. This is an event of extremely important significance in the sociopolitical life of the nation. The election of deputies to the National Assembly today marks the first time for our nation to implement the 1992 Constitution, which institutionalizes the renovation line initiated by the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and reflects our people's strong support and persistent efforts to implement it.

Besides great challenges, the international situation has also created conditions for new achievements by our people. Over the past several months, the preparations for the National Assembly elections have been made amid an enthusiastic atmosphere throughout the country. Those activities mark an unprecedented widespread political drive. Through several rounds of consultations organized by the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] committees at all levels in a genuinely democratic spirit and with a high sense of responsibility, and based on the investigation results obtained from the localities where the candidates lived or worked, 601 people have been selected to compete for 395 seats in the National Assemby. The elections will take place in 150 electoral units from Dong Van in Ha Giang to Nam Can in Minh Hai.

Those consultations, especially those meetings between voters and candidates, have created conditions for our people to personnally express their will and aspirations and contribute suggestions to important national issues. Those consultations and meetings have also provided the chances for candidates running as people's deputies to mingle with the masses and thoroughly understand their aspirations and sentiments and henceforth, heighten their sense of responsibility and improve their knowledge

Voters' opinions have been reflected through the mass media and have once again testified to the political maturity of the Vietnamese people. Our people from different walks of life and age groups have also expressed the determination to persist in the socialist path that they have chosen, have taken into account the initial yet important achievements, and have asserted the determination to join hands to build and defend the fatherland under the CPV's leadership.

At the same time, through those meetings, voters have also expressed their indignation at and concern over many burning social problems, especially corruption, socioeconomic mismanagement, and incompetence of a number of cadres. Voters' suggestions have provided valuable assets for National Assembly deputies to fulfill their glorious yet heavy tasks in the days ahead.

All 601 candidates selected through the preliminary screening have met set requirements, namely, loyalty to the Vietnamese fatherland, willingness to carry on the renovation undertaking aimed at making the people rich and the nation powerful, good knowledge, high qualifications for work implementation, fine quality and ethics, and examplary conduct when it comes to observing state law.

Deputies must be fully competent and of good quality to form a strong National Assembly. As far as our country is concerned, National Assembly deputies represent the will and aspirations of 67 million people. It is their duty to decide on important national issues covering all aspects of life. Besides new favorable conditions, our nation also faces many obstacles, challenges, and difficulties. Our National Assembly must truly act as the highest representation of the people and the highest organ of power of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which comprises many ethnic groups in which people of both sexes and different generations and social strata may have different occupations, cultural backgrounds, and aspirations.

Based on the fact that each candidate must meet set criteria, it is of utmost importance to select the right deputies to guarantee conditions for our National Assembly to reflect the will and aspirations of the all-people solidarity bloc.

Today, for the sake of the common, supreme interests of the nation as a whole, Vietnamese citizens of 18 years and over have the lofty obligation to carefully consider and make a selection. Let's put aside regional or personal feelings and put national interests above individual benefits so that we can elect the best and most typical deputies to represent us in deciding on basic domestic and foreign policies and in exercising the legislative power and supreme right to oversee the handling of national affairs. This choice constitutes an honor and a lofty duty that only a genuinely democratic social system could afford its citizens. Let Vietnamese voters all go to the polls and intelligently select the best deputies to the National Assembly.

Elections Said 'Truly Democratic'

BK1907065292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0650 GMT 19 Jul 92

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, July 19 (AFP)—Vietnamese cast ballots Sunday for a new National Assembly, with Communist Party chief Do Muoi defending single-party rule as "truly democratic."

"Is a multi-party system the only democratic system? I don't think so," he said as he cast his ballot.

"Democracy means that the people are the real masters of the country. In Vietnam, the government belongs to the people. They are the masters."

Vietnam's 37 million eligible voters were choosing 395 National Assembly deputies from 601 candidates who survived a rigorous screening process to make it on to the ballot.

The elections were the first to allow independent candidates to run, but only two of about 40 who initially came forward without backing from government or party organizations made it onto the ballot.

Vietnamese sources said Duong Thu Huong, an outspoken writer who spent seven months under house arrest last year, had expressed her intention to run as an independent, but her name did not appear on the ballot.

The elections are the first requiring more candidates than seats in each constituency, though the proportion of candidates to seats is actually smaller than five years ago when 826 competed for 496 seats.

"These elections are truly democratic—in essence, not only in appearance," Muoi told journalists.

The vote, the first since Vietnam adopted a new constitution in April, will produce a National Assembly that is smaller, more professional and more powerful than its predecessors, Muoi said.

The process of selecting candidates emphasized educational and professional qualifications, as Vietnam has realized that it needs competent lawmakers to concretize the economic reforms it began in 1987.

Of the 601 candidates, all but 63 are Communist Party members.

"We had multiparty politics before in Vietnam, after the August (1945) revolution," Muoi said. "It was a time when disorder prevailed and people suffered."

Many Vietnamese, especially in the north, seem accept this view of political pluralism, aided perhaps by daily Vietnamese television footage of the strife and breadlines that followed the collapse of communist governments in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

"I don't want multi-party politics because that means anarchy," said a university-educated man, 25, voting in Hanoi.

"But I want the government to do more to create jobs for young people."

Economic issues and the plague of corruption dominated the electoral meetings between candidates and selected voters from their constituencies in the three weeks before the poll.

"The economy must develop and the living standard of the people must develop—especially civil servants whose salaries are now only enough for half a month," Muoi said.

"Corruption should be punished strictly, with the rich corrupt punished most severely."

He also said that Vietnam had to reform its cumbersome state enterprises while trying to limit the growing social inequalities produced by the market system.

Results of the vote should be announced starting Wednesday, with the Ninth National Assembly to sit in late September.

The body is expected to re-elect Vo Van Kiet as prime minister, a post made more powerful by the new constitution which enshrines the Communist Party's "leadership" role but mandates the government run day-to-day affairs.

"Which is more democratic—a multi-party system or a single party system?" Muoi asked. "History will tell."

The stream of voters at Hanoi's polling stations dried to a trickle under the mid-day sun, but it was expected to pick up again before the polls closed at 7 p.m. (1200 GMT).

Though voting is not officially mandatory in Vietnam, it is strongly encouraged by authorities who keep track of the names of those who do not cast ballots.

Do Muoi Casts Opening Ballot in Elections

BK1907111592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Report on developments at various polling sites throughout the country during the 19 July National Assembly elections—portions recorded]

[Summary] "Dear friends: At 0700 sharp, the Ninth National Assembly elections were conducted throughout our country. Over 37 million voters went to the poll this time to elect 395 deputies from among 601 candidates. In Hanoi capital, some 1.4 million voters have gone to the poll to elect 20 deputies from among 22 candidates to the Ninth National Assembly."

National flags have been seen waving in the morning breeze. All the polling sites have been decorated beautifully, and we could hear loudspeakers blaring out guidance concerning election procedures.

According to the Hanoi Electoral Council, as of this morning, some 34 groups of correspondents, including those from abroad, had asked for permission to cover the elections at 11 polling sites in Hanoi. Noteworthy is the fact that the number of foreign radio and television correspondents asking for permission to cover this event is twice as large as the number of foreign correspondents based in Hanoi.

"At Constituency No. 3 of Electoral Unit No. 4 in Pham Dinh Ho ward, Hai Ba Trung precinct, shortly before 0700, we saw a large number of voters, including Comrade Secretary General Do Muoi, prepare to perform their duty as citizens. At 0700 sharp, in the witness of a bevy of local and foreign press, radio, and television correspondents—including those from REUTERS, AFP, NHK, XINHUA, ITAR TASS, and others—and a large number of voters attended an opening ceremony for the vote-casting.

"The ballot box was opened [possibly for checking] and then sealed. Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi was the first to cast his ballot at this electoral unit. After the comrade general secretary cast his vote, dozens of correspondents, including foreign ones, asked the comrade to answer some questions. The questions raised by foreign correspondents concerned issues regarding election preparations, democracy, and Vietnam's concepts on renovation.

"Answering a question raised by a correspondent of the Voice of Vietnam Radio on whether the comrade has any observation on the differences between this election and the previous one, Comrade Do Muoi said:

[Begin recording] [Do Muoi] "I can say that compared with the previous election, there are great improvements in this election. The Eighth National Assembly has amended the constitution to reflect its democratic character. It can be said that there have been improvements and a demand for the state to to improve its performance and further broaden democracy. Through electoral preparations, candidates have met voters, during which time voters—based on those standards specified in the law governing National Assembly elections—grilled candidates and demanded that after being elected deputies frequently contact voters in order to reflect the aspirations and will of the people at the highest organ of power—the National Assembly—for discussion.

"This time, it can be said that the standards for National Assembly deputies are much higher than before. Through the movement to keep the public informed of the standard qualifications for National Assembly deputies, and through various public debates over the standard requirements for National Assembly deputies, we can see that those running for election this time have been carefully prepared. Compared with the previous election, in this one, democracy has been considerably broadened and improved. This time the number of deputies has been reduced by 100. However, the qualifications necessary for National Assembly deputies have increased.

"Today, I feel proud to say that I have been in seven of our nine national assemblies. Every time a new National Assembly has been elected, our Vietnamese Revolution has made one step forward and further developed in its efforts to defend national independence, promote national unification, and carry out national construction. It can be said that our people have led a free and peaceful life, and they are now pooling their efforts to rebuild the country in an attempt to promptly tide themselves over poverty and backwardness for the sake of development." [end recording]

At Electoral Unit No. 1 in Ba Dinh Precinct, the following comrades were seen at the opening of the election process: "Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Le Phuoc Tho, member of the Political Bureau; Hong Ha, secretary of the party Central Committee; Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Thi Tam, secretary of the Ba Dinh Precinct Party Committee; and Hoang Dinh Triet, chairman of the Ba Dinh Precinct People's Committee. Also present were former Political Bureau Members Le Van Luong, Nguyen Duc Tam and To Huu, and scores of local and foreign news agencies."

"Council of Minsiters Chairman Vo Van Kiet this morning also cast his vote at this electoral unit."

All electoral procedures have been observed as specified by law. "The Electoral Council respectfully asked Comrade Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, to be the first to cast his vote in the presence of a large number of voters and local and foreign newsmen."

At the polling booth at 36 Tran Phu Street in Electoral Unit No. 1 of Ba Dinh Precinct, after casting his vote, Comrade Le Quang Dao was interviewed by a correspondent of Radio Voice of Vietnam. The correspondent asked: if elected, what will you do? Comrade Le Quang Dao, in a happy mood, answered:

[Begin recording] [Le Quang Dao] "If elected, I, together with the National Assembly, will try to fulfill my duty, as will my fellow National Assembly deputies. One of the most important issues that the National Assembly should pay attention to is the issue of the people's welfare. To tackle this issue, I think that the National Assembly should satisfactorily carry out its tasks through the ratification of annual socioeconomic development plans. That is the first point.

"The second point is that I will join other fellow national assembly deputies in scrutinizing the annual state budget in such a way as to ensure that all the items of revenue and expenditure are accurately calculated in order to reduce budgetary spendings in the advance toward achieving a balance between revenue and expenditure. This is one of the most important tasks to be done to contain and dispel inflation. Only by doing so can we create favorable conditions for increased production and for stabilizing the people's lives. I should, of course, together with other fellow deputies, increase my contacts with voters and listen to their aspirations, and come up with measures to tackle those urgent issues concerning the people's welfare to meet the people's legitimate needs." [end recording]

As of 0900, the number of voter turnouts in Hanoi had been put at 25 percent.

One of the foreign correspondents observing the Ninth National Assembly election at Constituency No. 3 in Pham Dinh Ho Ward, Mr. (Katuhita Kizawa), correspondent of the Japanese paper ASAHI SIMBUN, gave this comment:

[Begin recording] [Kizawa in Japanese fading into Vietnamese translation] Throughout this election, I have seen many drastic changes on the part of the Vietnamese. I am very surprised at these drastic changes. At this polling site, I witnessed Mr. Do Muoi, the highest Vietnamese leader, and many representatives of the people of various strata, casting their ballots. This is a manifestation of democracy in your country. [end recording]

According to station correspondent Ngan Quy from Yen Bai province, as of 1000, recorded voter turnout in the province had been 65 percent.

The progress of the election in Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Khanh Hoa, Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Quang Ngai, Lang Son, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Nam-Danang, Hoa Binh, Long An provinces, and Haiphong municipality are also reported.

A report from station correspondent Mai Hoa in Ho Chi Minh City says that at 0700 sharp, all polling in the city opened.

"At Polling Site 41 in the Third Precinct under Electoral Unit No. 1, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, advisor to the party Central Committee, was the first to cast his vote. Simultaneously, at Polling Site 42 in the Third Precinct, Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of the Council of State, also cast his opening vote."

Voters in the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Precincts and in Go Vap, Hoc Mon, Binh Chanh, and Cu Chi districts have been seen enthusiastically flocking to various balloting sites.

"At Polling Site 51, over 100 voters have cast their ballots. After exercising his right as a citizen, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee, gave the following comment on the election of the Ninth National Assembly:

[Begin recording] [Vo Tran Chi] "Like other voters, I have cast my ballot in this national assembly election. I think that we should select those who are fully competent and ethically qualified to hold the helm of our national boat—that is, to preserve our independence and sovereignty and to move our country forward. We should select those who really care for the people, especially needy people. It is most important that voters resolutely cast out those officials of the state apparatus that are corrupt. This is the common desire of the people of various strata and of myself." [end recording]

We are ending our report on the election here. During this evening's newscasts, we will continue to bring you more detailed reports on the Ninth National Assembly elections in various localities throughout the country.

Meets Press on Election Day

BK1907161992 Hanoi VNA in English 1427 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 19—Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], had an impromptu meeting with the press earlier this morning as he went to the polls for the National Assembly general elections at electoral unit no. 4 in Hai Hung District, Hanoi. After casting his ballot, Do Muoi said he would be happy to take up any questions from the press.

Asked by many foreign correspondents what are the greatest concerns of the electorate in this election, Do Muoi said: "Through my contacts with my constituency, I saw that they were most concerned with the employment question and how to develop the econmy to improve the living conditions. They also wanted to restore order and discipline and a tougher fight against corruption. These are actually two most crucial questions which we are concentrating on and we believe positive results are forthcoming. The voters also are impatient with social equity. The market mechanism has strongly polarised wealth and subsequently increased social inequities. We encourage people to enrich themselves but at the same time are determined to reduce and eventually to eradicate poverty. The people's aspiration and the party and state's targets converge on this point".

Do Muoi continued: "People also deplored degrading public health care and education. This is also an imperative social work that needs to be addressed. Long years of war have landed Vietnam into utter poverty and it can be said that we are now one of the poorest countries in the world. Moreover, the change from subsidisation to the market mechanism has also taken its toll which is one of the reasons for the downgrading of education and public health care. The remedy can be nothing but a strong economy because only a developed economy can solve difficulties in social life".

To a question of XINHUA news agency on Sino-Vietnamese relations, the party general secretary said: "Last year a high-level Vietnamese delegation led by myself visited China to re-establish normal relations between the two countries. These relations have improved and it is our hope that they would continue to improve although many problems remain to be solved. The leaders of the two countries agreed to solve outstanding and newly arising questions by peaceful means. If they cannot be solved at one time, exchange of views will continue until a final solution is reached, in the interest of the people of both countries and of peace and stability in the region and across the world".

A Japanese reporter asked Do Muoi to confirm the news that Vietnam had invited Chinese Premier Li Peng to visit Vietnam. Do Muoi said that diplomatic offices of both countries are actually preparing for this trip which is likely to take place late this year, possibly following the coming congress of the Chinese Communist Party. "The Vietnamese party, state and people wish that the visit will take place as soon as possible", he said.

The question of democracy and multi-party system in Vietnam is also a major point of interest of the foreign correspondents. Answering questions in this regard, Do Muoi said: "The multi-party system is not necessarily a democratic system. I would like to remind you that in the first election right after our August revolution in 1945 we had quite a few political parties taking part. However, the political situation aggravated thereafter and instability took over. Then through the practice of inner struggle most of the parties melted away by themselves. Only the communist party remained firm in leading the revolution and it went from one success to another. Beside the communist party were the democratic and socialist parties which accepted the leadership of the communists. Thanks to our policy of close unity of the entire people we have gained big victories. Is a multiparty system necessary now? No. In our view, democracy or no democacy must be judged by the fact that whether or not the people are real masters of the country and whether or not the state is a state of the people. We advocate the building of a law-governed state of the people, by the people and for the people. All state affairs are affairs of the people. All the laws are brought up for discussions among the people. Then, the National Assembly will base itself on the opinions of the people to adopt laws. That is democracy. Take for instance this general election. The state set forth the criteria for a candidate, but it is up to the people to choose whom they want to be in the National Assembly. Our watchword is 'the people must know, discuss, execute and control'. Is it democracy: History will judge. In our view, when we speak of democracy we must look at the essence not at the appearance".

Asked by a correspondent of KYODO about the measures to fight against corruption, General Secretary Do Muoi said: "We are taking a series of measures at the same time. First, it is the question of personnel. When selecting a cadre, the first criterion we require is: Has he or she placed the interests of the people above all? Is he or she ready to fight all his or her life for the interests of the people? Then, we must develop the economy to improve the living conditions of the people. At present, the salaries of our workers and public servants are the most burning problem. Wages are obviously too low. For its part, the government must effect good management and severely punish the corrupt officials. On the other hand, we must go ahead with the organizational reforms in the state- run economic sector where many problems remain to be solved. We have studied them carefully and have put forward the necessary steps in this direction".

Turning to his Japanese interviewer, Do Muoi said jokingly: "Do you know of any country free from corruption?" As the correspondent gave a negative answer, Do Muoi continued: "No, there is no country without corruption. I think the corruption level in Vietnam is still far below that in many other countries. Of course, we have to fight corruption, fight it constantly because this is an inherent evil of the human society so long as the state remains".

Bidding farewell to the journalists Do Muoi said: "It is my fervent wish that you will, by the means at your disposal, campaign for peace and stability in the world, for cooperation in development, especially for international cooperation with Vietnam".

Vo Chi Cong Inspects Election Activity

BK2007105392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Text] On 19 July, after attending a ceremony to begin the Ninth National Assembly elections and after casting his vote at Polling Booth No. 4 in Quan Thanh Ward of Ba Dinh Precinct, Comrade Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State and chairman of the Central Electoral Council, made an inspection tour to various polling sites in Hanoi and at Ha Dong City, Ha Tay Province.

In Hanoi, Chairman Vo Chi Cong inspected elections at Constituency No. 7 in Lang Ha Ward, which is attached to Electoral Unit No. 3 of Dong Da Precinct; Polling Site No. 1 in Dien Bien Ward, which is attached to Electoral Unit No. 1 of Ba Dinh Precinct; and Polling Site No. 2 of Hang Dao Ward, which is attached to Electoral Unit No. 2 of Hoan Kiem Precinct.

After listening to briefings made by officials of these polling sites on the organization of the elections in accordance with the law and on voter turnout, Chairman Vo Chi Cong warmly commended officials at various constituencies in Hanoi for their efforts to organize the elections in a careful, serious, and democratic fashion.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong also visited and inspected elections at Polling Site No. 2 in Quang Trung Ward, Ha Dong City, Ha Tay Province.

Report on Voting in Elections

BK2007072092 Hanoi VNA in English 0601 GMT 20 Jul 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 20—Most of the more than 37 million registered voters cast their votes on Sunday [19 July] to elect a new National Assembly, the ninth in the history of Vietnam.

In what was agreed to be the most democraic election to date, they had a much larger field to choose from a total of 601 candidates for the 359 available seats.

According to initial statistics, turnout recorded in Hanoi was 98 percent, Son La 95 percent, Quang Ninh 96 percent, and Bac Thai 95 percent.

Turnout recorded in Long An at 4 P.M. was 85 percent, in Ho Chi Minh City at 5 P.M. was 96.2 percent, in Haiphong 94.3 percent, voters in Haiphong and nearby districts included 2,400 former boat people from Hong Kong. At 6 P.M. turnout recorded in Tay Ninh was 91.8 percent and in Ba Ria-Vung Tau 97.7 percent.

Voting was also earnest in mountain regions, turnout was 100 percent at Da Bac, a Thai inhabited district of Hoa Binh Province, west of Hanoi.

On the offshore district of Truong Sa islands in Khanh Hoa Province, there were a total of 23 polling stations, Mr Le Quoc Sang, chairman of the district, told the press that voting was proud to discharge their duties to the country. [sentence as received]

Pham The Duyet Speaks With Voters

BK1907151192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Jul 92

[Report on Pham The Duyet's conversation with a voter at constituency no. 1 in Hanoi—portions recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At constitutency no. 1 of electoral unit no. 2, Tran Hung Dao Ward in Hanoi, comrade Pham The Duyet, secretary of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, in a jubilant mood after casting his ballot, talked to Miss Duong Thi Quynh Duyen, a Hanoi voter who, for the first time in her life, had a chance to exercise the Vietnamese citizen's obligation in voting. The following is the content of their conversation:

[Begin recording] [Pham The Duyet] You are 18 years old this year, are you not?

[Voter] Yes sir, this is the first time I have had a chance to vote.

[Pham The Duyet] What is your impression of voting?

[Voter] I feel very excited, sir.

[Pham The Duyet] Why are you so excited? [laughter]

[Voter] Because this is the first time I am voting, and I feel that I have the obligation to do so.

[Pham The Duyet] Before voting, did you have the chance to study the biographies of these candidates? Do you mean you have not had the chance to study them and that you have learned about them only at this electoral unit?

[Voter] This is exactly so, sir. [laughter]

[Pham The Duyet] From now on you must consistently exercise your obligation as as citizen. In this spirit, you must strive to satisfactorily fulfill your duties. In the next few years, the 18-year-old generation will assume more responsibilities as the older generation transfers tasks and duties to the younger generation. As a result, youth in your generation must strive to work for the capital and the nation. The more you nieces and nephews work for and devote yourselves to the capital, the more the capital city and the nation will become firm and prosperous. For this reason, you must strive to satisfactorily carry out your tasks while studying diligently and enthusiastically exercise your obligations as a citizen. When you graduate and begin to work, you must also strive to do your best.

This is the first time that you can vote; I have no doubt that you are excited. I am sure that next time you will be more prepared, and that in the future you will not be only a voter, but also a candidate [laughter]. This is the truth, because it is inevitable that your turn will come. My generation is getting old and will take its turn in retirement, and you nieces and nephews must assume the responsibilities that are leftover. I urge that you strive to do your best to fulfill your tasks. [end recording] [passage omitted]